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THE SPECTATOR

Five Public Speaking Prizes Awarded

by Amina Sibtain '11
News Writer

"We should put down our computers, leave our cell phones at home, sign offline and step into the real world and out of the virtual one. Train yourself to avoid taking shortcuts by reading a longer article each day," said Rachel Pohl '11 as she concluded her speech at the 2009 Hamilton College Public Speaking Competition Final Round. The competition took place on Saturday, Feb. 28 in the Chapel and consisted of three different awards: The McKinney Prize, The Clark Prize and The Warren E. Wright Prize.

Students competing for the Warren E. Wright Prize were required to discuss a current issue of social significance. Three students vied for the $5,500 reward, giving speeches of a solely

see ***Speaking Contest****, page 3*

PHOTO COURTESY THE WINDISH AGENCY

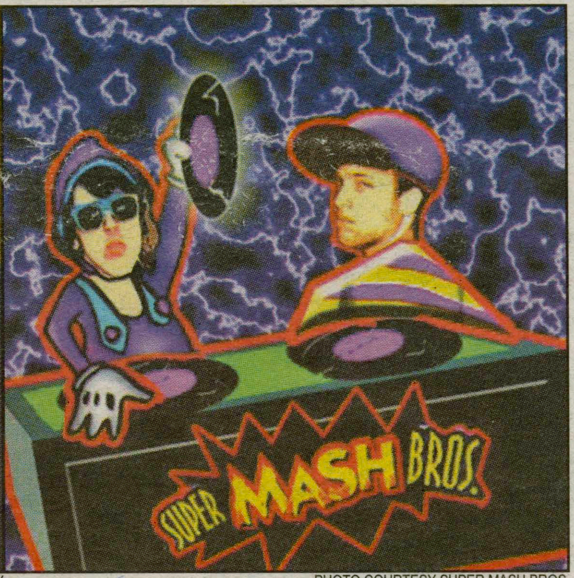


PHOTO COURTESY SUPER MASH BROS.

The Office of Student Activities has booked Rjd2 and Super Mash Bros, for a concert on Friday, May 1. The show will take place outside on Steuben Football Field.

Rjd2 & Super Mash Bros. to DJ Spring Dance Party

by Thomas Yarnell '10
News Editor

On Friday, May 1, disc jockey Rjd2 and mashup artists Super Mash Bros. will headline this year's spring concert. Sponsored by the Campus Activities Board (CAB), the concert is set to take place at night on Steuben Field and will feature a light show complete with strobes and smoke machines.

CAB decided to host a DJ show based on a limited budget and the results of an all-students e-mail survey that gauged interest in different bands. CAB concert coordinator Jarrod Burton '09 stated that after examining the results of the survey, "there was no clear-cut winner. Ben Folds and Guster, who received the most votes, though not a majority, were not available, plus that concert has been done." Burton explained that, "When we looked at the distribution of results there was no choice that seemed to clearly indicate 'that's who we should go for.'"

CAB was also reluctant to host a show at the Stanley Theater in Utica, partly for financial reasons. Technical expenses for a show at the Stanley Theater would total around $15,000, as opposed to $6,000 for a show at Hamilton. Paul Ryan, assistant director of Student Activities

see ***Spring Concert****, page 3*

2009-2010 Budget Approved

The three percent raise in the comprehensive fee is the smallest in 42 years.

by Kate Moore '12
News Writer

The Hamilton College Board of Trustees convened Friday, Feb. 27 to discuss the budget for the 2009-2010 school year. The Board, satisfied with the budget's emphasis on fiscal responsibility and job security for employees, voted to approve the $133,473,300 budget.

Karen Leach, vice president of administration and finance, presented the newly approved budget at the faculty meeting on Tuesday, 0March 3. Leach highlighted preparedness for a continued economic downtown, yet boasted the smallest tuition increase in decades.

She also described specific goals found in the new budget, including what should be maintained and what needed to be reexamined. At this point, the campus will see no dramatic change, but plans are in place should the economic crisis worsen in the near future. The administration has planned for "an indefinite period of financial challenges,"

see ***Budget****, page 2*

Casino Night Benefits ABC House

by Kerry Q. Coughlin '11
News Writer

This past Saturday, Feb. 28, the Hamilton community participated in an evening that combined casino games and big prizes with an opportunity to help transform the lives of others.

All of this occurred in the excitement that was the A Better Chance (ABC) House Late Nite Casino Fundraiser. From the catered food to the musical entertainment, the event provided hours of enjoyment. Students packed around each table, playing Texas Hold 'Em poker and Black Jack. Tables were filled with people trying their hand at Bingo.

Students had the opportunity to enter raffles for smaller prizes, such as gift cards and hair care products. There were three big prizes reserved for the winners of the casino games: a Nintendo Wii, a flat screen TV and an iPod Touch, won by Riley Jorgenson '11, Mike Bethoney '11 and Alex Kim '12 respectively.

see ***Casino Night****, page 4*

PHOTO BY REBECCA FORNABY '10

Players crowd around the craps table at Casino Night.

Faculty Approves New QLit. Changes

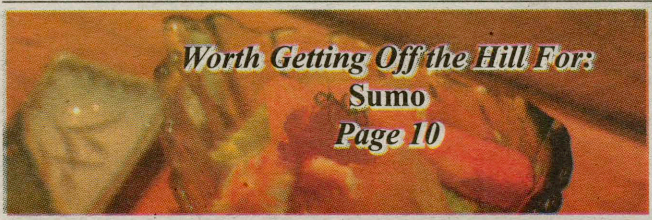
by Kate Moore '12
News Writer

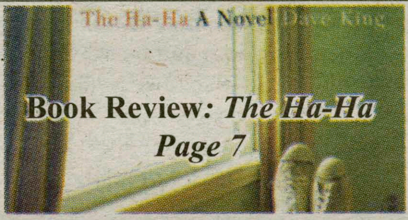
Following months of planning and debate, the proposed Quantitative and Symbolic Reasoning (QSR) requirement came to vote before the faculty during their March 3 meeting. The movement to replace the current Quantitative Literacy (QLit.) requirement with the revamped QSR means that students will no longer be able to test out of the requirement, and *must* take one course that meets the QSR criteria. Students will have a wider range of options, however, as the symbolic component covers additional concentrations.

The Committee on Academic Policy (CAP) has outlined three categories: statistical analysis, mathematical representation, and logic and symbolic reasoning. The proposed statement to be included in the course catalog cites examples of the latter category, including "the proper construction of a computer program or a formal proof; the analysis of language in linguistics; or the study of music theory."

The Quantitative Literacy Center will still have a vital role on campus. As the current QLit.

see ***QLit****, page 2*





Town Hall Meeting Addresses Alcohol Problems

by Scott Bixby '11
News Writer

"To alcohol! The cause of – and solution to – all of life's problems."

So stated famous lush Homer Simpson, stein in hand, on the Facebook event invitation to a town hall meeting on Wednesday, March 4, when the Alcohol Coalition, in conjunction with Student Assembly, the Inter-Society Council and various residential advisors, held a meeting in the Science Center to discuss the "culture of drinking" on campus. The hour and a half-long meeting, which was entirely student led and open to students only, drew roughly thirty students, each with a unique view on the issue of alcohol use on campus.

"We're on top of a hill, surrounded by farmland," said one student, who partially attributed the campus-wide use of alcohol to Hamilton's middle-of-nowhere status. "[The Administration] recognizes that the students don't have a lot of other options."

Still, others disagreed, citing the widespread use of alcohol at metropolitan schools such as New York University and Arizona State. "We are small and isolated, but I think there are enough things to do," said another. "There's just this acceptance of the alcohol culture. I think that's the biggest hurdle, the social acceptance of excessive drinking."

The issue of Hamilton's alleged "culture of alcohol" is not just based on the 42 students transported to local hospitals ("EMT'd") for alcohol poisoning this year. According to Brian Mizoguchi '11, a moderator representing the ISC, "There's been a study that students who drank in high school are more likely to apply to Hamilton than to our competitor schools."

Those students who eventually come to Hamilton work fast; in the early weeks of every academic year, weekly totals of students being "EMT'd" doubles, with most of those being taken by ambulance services being first years.

According to Student Assembly President Amy Goldstein '11, "There have been zero seniors transported this year."

Much of the panel discussion was aimed at promoting a student-led change in attitudes. "It's the student who falls through the Greek cracks who doesn't have people watching out for them," said Luvuyo Mandela '09, a residential advisor and member of the Alcohol Coalition. "There's no one keeping tabs on [the] number of drinks they'd been having throughout the night."

*see **Students Discuss**, page 4*

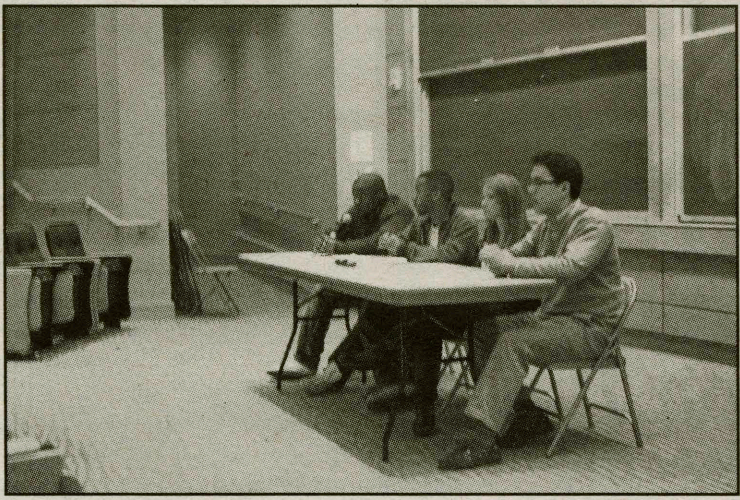


PHOTO BY EZRA ROSENBERG '10

The Alcohol Coalition panel led the student-only forum.

QLit. Requirement Change

*from **Faculty Approves**, page 1*

requirement will remain for the class of 2013, the center's services will remain the same. CAP believes that present resources can be easily utilized in the new system. Current tutorial aid will be transferred to provide assistance to students enrolled in QSR classes.

"If there aren't tutors in the QLit. Center for a particular QSR course, we have the resources of the Peer Tutoring Program, which offers one-on-one peer tutoring support," said Mary O'Neill, director of the Center.

The primary reasoning for altering the requirement was to move away from a proficiency-based requirement to a course-based requirement. Professor Nat Strout, chair of the committee on academic policy, expressed concern that testing for proficiency was a biased process.

"A proficiency based requirement can give an unfair advantage to students who come from the higher socio-economic groups and thus are more likely to have better high school preparation. A course-based requirement treats all students the same," said Strout.

This emphasis makes the QSR requirement more like the Writing-Intensive requirement. According to Professor Ernest Williams, the writing requirement was designed with the conscious decision not to have a proficiency test, but to have a three-course requirement.

Faculty members contested several aspects of the new requirement, including wording in the logic and symbolic reasoning description, what specific courses would qualify as QSR and how many courses should be required. Strout was asked to clarify if mathematics classes taken during the summer HEOP program would count toward the requirement; there was some vacillation, but CAP eventually agreed to include the class in its list of potential courses.

A tentative list of 100 and 200-level QSR courses has been made. Subjects includes: Anthropology, Archaeology, Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science Economics, Geosciences, Government, Music, Philosophy, Psychology, Sociology, Theatre, the mathematics component of the HEOP summer program, some College Seminars and all courses in Mathematics and Physics.

In addition, some faculty members seemed to prefer the idea of a two-course requirement, arguing that CAP was simply unsure that enough spots would be open for students to take the necessary courses. Strout reassured the group that they only wanted to hold off until the new system has been tested. The faculty passed the movement to institute the QSR requirement, beginning with the class of 2014.

Student Assembly

Library, Trustees & Tech

by Eve Denton '12
Student Assembly Correspondent

Library News:

A representative from the Burke Library spoke at the Student Assembly meeting and shared information about services the library has recently started that the student body may not be aware of. The blog hamiltoncollegelibrary.blogspot.com offers an online suggestion box and news items from the library. In addition, through the library homepage students can access the "Ask a Librarian" feature that allows students to talk to a librarian using instant messaging throughout most of the day. Also, the library now has a fan page on Facebook.

Trustees Meetings:

The Board of Trustees met this past weekend and discussed many of the issues on campus and how they pertained to the current economic situation. They made the decision to go forward with accepting bids for the ELS renovation and passed a resolution to renovate Major, Minor, Macintosh and waterproof the Bristol Center patio. They voted to grant tenure to eight new professors.

Food:

The Food Committee is creating an off-shoot committee to oversee special diets and allergies. Students interested in joining this committee should contact lzoltick@hamilton.edu.

Social Traditions:

Social Tradition is looking to replace Spring on the Hill with an all-campus BBQ to be held at some point in the Spring. It would be a relaxed, outdoors activity with performances by various bands.

Diversity and Accessibility:

The Diversity and Accessibility Committee will be hosting a Stand Up for Peace event featuring a comedian in the chapel on April 17 from 7-9 p.m. They are still in the process of making arrangements for a trip to New York City.

Technology:

Because only 29 percent of Hamilton students use Sophos, the current antivirus software which costs $8,000 a year, Hamilton will be switching to a comparable but cheaper antivirus protector that has not yet been chosen. March movies are up on Channel 54, and a committee member made the point that not all movies are available from our rental company in digital format.

Budget Ups Fee Three Percent

*from **Budget**, page 1*

said Leach.

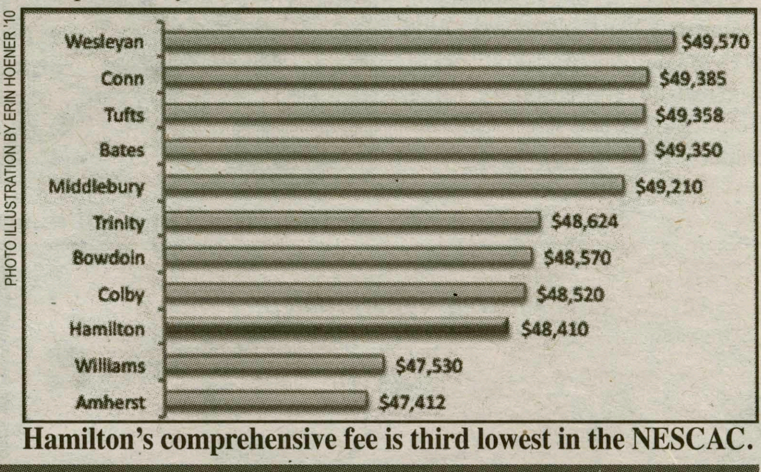
Leach went on to say that the school has been fortunate to benefit from sound financial planning. The endowment has not been overdrawn; in fact, endowment spending for this year was $500,000 less than the previous academic year. However, the committee still looks to reduce endowment draw. Over-enrollment has benefitted the school with extra tuition money. Leach cited a $2.5 million surplus associated with an over-enrollment of approximately 50 students. On a related note, the school will have to hold off on returning to a desired enrollment of 1,775 students. The committee determined that the school could not afford to lose so much in tuition funds, and thus reset the goal for 1,800. Current enrollment is 1,828. Students will not benefit from smaller class sizes anytime soon, but will only see a three percent increase in tuition, room and board. That is the lowest rise in 42 years.

This increase is on par with other NESCAC schools. Hamilton's price tag currently reads $48,410; next year it will be $49,860. This actually falls in the lower half of comprehensive fees. Middlebury will see a 4.9 percent increase, for example, which will put them over $50,000.

A key goal for the committee was to "retain talent." To meet this agenda, a $500 flat raise was given to all non-union employees who receive benefits; union members will negotiate over the summer. Professors questioned why an alternative wage-freeze was not instituted and in response, Leach stressed the importance of the raise to employees who make less than $30,000 a year. However, she also agreed that it could be a possibility in the future. At the end of the meeting, Acting President and Dean of Faculty Joe Urgo announced a campaign for willing faculty to return the $500 to the College. These funds will go directly to financial aid.

The administration claims the outlook for Hamilton is positive. The College hopes that prudent financial planning in the past will likely serve the community well in the future. Leach stated that the College needs to "find" upwards of $700,000, but this sum is fairly insignificant given the total budget.

"We've made some good decisions in recent years that have set us up well for our current situation," said Leach.



Hamilton's comprehensive fee is third lowest in the NESCAC.

Trustees Calm Student Woes About Financial Crisis

by Daniel Steinman '12
News Writer

On Friday, Feb. 27, a panel of Hamilton's trustees provided answers to students' questions on the economic crisis. The experienced group of professionals gave their views on the major problems and possible solutions surrounding what has become a personal issue for many students on campus. Gregory Hoogkamp '82, managing director at Goldman Sachs, John Rice '78, vice chairman of General Electric and George Baker '74, partner at William and Jensen made up the panel. Jaime Yordan '71, vice chairman at Citigroup, also dropped by and was asked to speak to the audience.

In its discussion, the panel covered a wide range of topics related to the economy, including banking issues, irresponsibility in the private sector, international trade relations, lax government regulation and the mentality of businesses. Yordan told students that they should "pay attention" because the coming years in the financial markets are "going to be fascinating."

Much of the Q&A session was directed at the many seniors in attendance. Rice said there is "no reason to be scared" entering the job market in the coming months, but "every reason to be cautious" in decision-making. Rice emphasized what he sees as the business lessons to be learned from the current recession: "think long term" and "never live beyond your means."

Both Hoogkamp and Baker pointed to the present climate as an opportunity for those entering the job market to acquire important positions outside of the finance sector or Wall Street, where many of the nation's top college graduates have been heading over the past decade. "Think of the number of jobs [outside of business] that could be filled by talented people," said Hoogkamp, citing education as an example of a field in need of talented college graduates.

When asked about how the Board of Trustees is addressing the needs of Hamilton students and the financial stability of the college, responses were positive. "I, personally, have been very impressed with the degree with which the college leadership has put forth a responsible plan to deal with the current economic challenges," Rice commented.

Hoogkamp stated, "I feel really privileged to be part of this [board of trustees]." He also emphasized that the Board has "only one agenda," which he said was to make the best decisions for the school. Rice explained that the Board recognizes how unemployment is affecting students on campus; the Trustees discussed means of saving money to provide a larger cushion for financial aid..

Next year's tuition, Acting President Urgo announced Monday, will be raised by three percent from this year. This is a smaller raise than that being seen in comparable liberal arts colleges. "Approximately $24.4 million in financial aid has been allocated to continue our commitment to meet the full demonstrated financial need of every Hamilton student," Urgo's message read. He forewarned students that the economic climate may not improve any time soon. Surely, Hamilton students will continue to feel the effects of the downturn both on campus and at home.

PHOTO BY JULIO MONTERROSO '10

Trustee Panel members John Rice '78, George Baker '74 and Gregory Hoogkamp '82.

Speaking Contest Winners Take Home Prestige, Prizes

from Five Public, page 1

informational, rather than persuasive, nature. Rebecca Griffin '09 examined how the media distorts body image, Stuart Lombardi '09 explored the impact of climate change on coral reefs, and Gregory Kreitzor '11 shed light on the deteriorating standards of public school education in America. All the contestants provided the audience with insight into their chosen topics, but it was Lombardi who took home the prestigious award. Upon his success, Lombardi said, "It's always great to see Hamilton students participate. I have participated in two previous years, but this year was incredibly exciting."

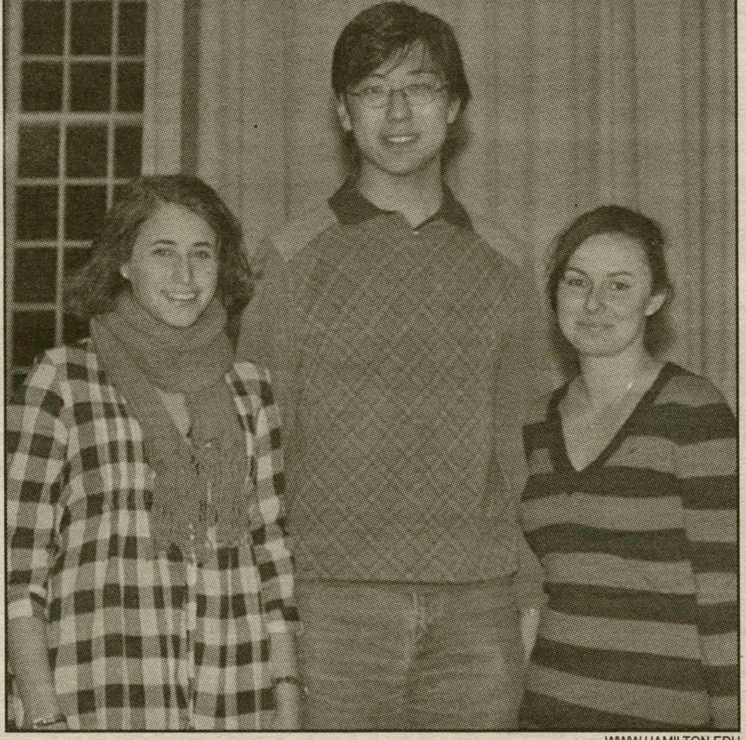
The McKinney Prize, which required a persuasive speech of five to eight minutes, consisted of four awards: a $900 senior award and a $450 award for each other class year. Hanbin Yang '12 won the prize among first years for his speech on volunteer service. Competing from the sophomore class were Pohl and Andrew Harris '11, with Pohl taking the award. Elijah LaChance '10 and Thomas Coppola '10 represented the junior class in the competition. LaChance took the prize for his speech on the effects of autism. Finally, Lombardi and Griffin competed for the more lucrative senior class prize, and it was Griffin who garnered the $900 award.

Regarding the performance of the contestants, Oral Communications Center Coordinator Jim Helmer said, "The students are taking on important topics and are doing an excellent job connecting with their own lives and bringing these big issues home to the Hamilton Community."

This year's topic for The Clark Prize, the only prize with an assigned topic and supplementary essay, was "The drinking age: should it be reexamined or frozen at 21?" Joseph Liotta '09, Kara Labs '09 and Griffin each offered personal anecdotes to accompany their arguments. Griffin won the prize, and received the $1,200 award. "I'm excited!" exclaimed Griffin. "I did not think I would win."

The judges of the competition, including Susan Jasko, associate professor of Communication Studies at the California University of Pennsylvania, were impressed with the participants. Said Jasko, "The students [were] articulate and well researched about their topics."

Audience member Ashlyn Razzo '11 summed up the event by saying, "The participants were well-informed about their topics and talked about issues important to them. Their passion was apparent in their essays. It was definitely a close competition."



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Rachel Pohl '11, Hanbin Yang '12, Rebecca Griffin '09 and Elijah LaChance'10 (not pictured) won the McKinney prize.

Spring Concert to Feature DJ Rjd2

from Rjd2, page 1

maintained that "The budget is tight at the end of the year, so we needed a definite success if it would be a good sell at the Stanley."

In past years, the May Day concert received supplemental funding from both WHCL and IMF, but this year the organizational and financial responsibilities lie solely with CAB. In fact, as of now, the concert will not retain the "May Day" title and CAB members have yet to decide on a different name.

"It doesn't make sense to spend $40,000 on an Annex show. We wanted something different," Ryan stated in regard to past May Day performances. Burton added that, "May Day needed to be reexamined after the (2007) Citizen Cope May Day because it wasn't a very successful show."

CAB stressed that this year's spring show is not intended to represent a new May Day, but rather to bring artists that will appeal to a large majority of the student body. Said Ryan, "Every year Colgate does a big spring performance, and they spend $100,000 for an outdoor show with a big name. That's what people expect from us, but we're not pooling all of our money into one show a semester. We like the idea of booking a variety of acts. We think that a DJ show coupled with prior shows during the year including a rap/hip-hop show [Ghostface], rock [The Kooks], all of our acoustic coffee houses and the Flobots – which mix many genres – does just that."

Rjd2, whose real name is Ramble John Krohn, has been scratching turntables since the '90s, but his real breakthrough came in 2002, upon the release of his first solo album, *Deadringer*. The DJ's work generally falls within the underground hip-hop genre, though the artist takes pride in his variety of styles. According to the biography on his website, he has been called an "underground hip-hop super-producer" and a "virtuoso sample-based instrumental wizard," but his latest album, *The Third Hand*, "placates none who seek more of the same."

Super Mash Bros. consists of DJs Nick Fenmore and Dick Fink. The duo's website describes their creative process as "taking all of your favorite hits from the '90s and combining them with today's chart-toping rap hits in ways scientifically proven to make you shake you're a**." The band released their first album, *F*%k b*%tches. Get Euros.* in the summer of 2008, and their Myspace page describes their sound as something like "Girl Talk's hot cousin."

Given the DJ headliner, the spring concert will have a novel feel. However, mainstays of past May Days, such as campus band performances and recreational activities will remain staples of the weekend.

Lauren Moon '10 and Rebecca Griffin '09 contributed reporting to this article.

PHOTO BY REBECCA FORNABY '10

Students play a fast-paced Bingo game in the Tolles Pavilion on Saturday, Feb. 28.

Casino Night Rakes it in for ABC

from Casino Night, page 1

Tau Kappa Epsilon member Andrew Branting '11 came up with the idea to do something for the Clinton ABC house, and was quickly supported by brother Brian Mizoguchi '11. "The idea for the casino came about through a series of conversations that Brian and I had with [Assistant Dean of Students for Campus Life and Director of Student Activities] Lisa Magnarelli," said Branting.

The two then spoke to Professor of Chemistry Robin Kinnel, who has been associated with the ABC House for more than 25 years. "I was very enthusiastic about the idea, since the ABC program has no fundraisers of its own during the early spring," explained Kinnel, "and those of us on the Board have been searching for something that works during this time." Branting and Mizoguchi then gathered 18 on-campus social organizations to help them with their cause.

The mission of A Better Chance is to decrease racial disparity in education and ensure that people of color are able to receive the same caliber of education as more economically privileged students.

Eight young men of minority background from New York City live in the Clinton ABC House on Campus Road for their high school years. The students attend classes at Clinton High School and receive tutoring from Hamilton students. The graduates of the House have gone on to attend institutions such as Cornell, Columbia, Princeton and Hamilton.

Fundraising has been more difficult for the program this year. Jacob Kleinrock '11, a member of Delta Phi and an important role-player in the event, said, "Unfortunately, the local ABC House has had difficulties obtaining enough money to maintain operations, so we hope this event will provide enough support for the ABC House so that they will be able to continue working with these students."

Many people worked hard before and during the event to make it a successful one. The work of Branting and Mizoguchi will help to further enrich the lives of the eight young men currently residing in the ABC House. "I have had a chance to meet all of the kids at the ABC House, and they are really remarkable kids, said Mizoguchi. "This program has enabled them to have a lot of goals and ambitions that they may not have had otherwise."

Students Discuss Drinking Culture, "Pregame" Habits

from Town Hall, page 2

Greek societies were generally dismissed from partial culpability; according to interviews conducted with students who had been "EMT'd," in every interview conducted, the person attributed their drunkenness to hard alcohol.

Is an all-out ban of hard liquor a possibility? According to Goldstein: "Is there a precedent for that kind of action being taken? Yes. Has such a policy relating to alcohol been established? No." However, a ban of hard alcohol on campus has been "on the table" for some years.

When asked if the school thought educating new students on responsible drinking habits was a possibility, the response was overwhelmingly negative from the panel. "It's very tricky... the school doesn't want to do that, it doesn't want the responsibility and liability of teaching underage kids how to drink," said Mandela. Instead of responsibility lying with the school, the moderators stated, responsibility is up to the person's friends.

Some moderators sounded incredulous at the amount of alcohol use and abuse on campus. "When you consider the intellect of the students, its surprising," said Mizoguchi. "When you consider all of the negative consequences, it's really remarkable that something more serious hasn't happened."

Some students spoke out on the importance of friends being responsible for ensuring fellow students' safety. "I think it's a good idea to throw parties that teach freshmen how to drink," said one attendee. "I understand that there's 'laws' and everything, and that's a problem. But for *us*, we break those laws all the time. We have a lot of power over underclassmen, and since the school won't take the responsibility to teach people how to drink, it's up to us to show people how to responsibly drink alcohol."

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THE SPECTATOR EDITORIAL

The Substandard Work-Study Promise

Hamilton College must increase the priority already given to work-study students. The current policy, which is published in the "Human Resources" section of the College's website, states that, "The Financial Aid Office provides guidance for first year students in locating campus employment." If the College wishes to remain consistent in its commitment to students who demonstrate financial need, then it must expand this policy beyond first year students.

The Financial Aid Office should not just offer "guidance" to first year work-study students, but rather it should guarantee work-study students of all class years a job on campus. This is imperative for two reasons. The first is that some students who are not eligible for financial aid (and thus, work-study) their first year may be eligible for it in the future. Especially in today's economic climate, a family's financial situation may fluctuate from year to year. Let us say, for example, that a student is not eligible for financial aid his first year, but he receives a financial aid package that includes work study his sophomore year. Why should his status as a sophomore make it easier to find a job without the help of the Financial Aid Office?

The second reason to guarantee all work-study students a job on campus is that a large number of campus jobs are filled through connections. This closes off opportunities for students who are not connected to people that can help them get a job. Many students on campus gain employment at a given office through friends, family or faculty members. While there is nothing wrong with taking advantage of these kinds of opportunities when they present themselves, those students with the financial need for a work-study job should not be put at a disadvantage if they lack these connections. Not all positions are filled in this way, of course, but a significant portion are, and it is important that there are enough jobs to go around for all students, regardless of who they know.

Surely there are enough jobs available on campus such that Hamilton could guarantee employment to all work-study students while having plenty of openings available to those not receiving financial aid. If this were not the case, however, it would be painless and simple for the College to create some new positions expressly for work-study students. The Writing Center, for example, could remain open an extra hour or two, were there a student to run the front desk during that time. The general student body clearly uses that space on a consistent basis, and thus a new work-study-exclusive position at the Center benefit both the student employee with financial needs and the entire Hamilton community. The expense of adding positions would not be wasted money, but would go towards easing the financial burden of a Hamilton education.

The College must ensure careful oversight on a new program that guarantees employment to those who qualify for work-study. Those students not eligible for work-study but more qualified for a given position should not suffer as a result of this potential policy change. Still, it is essential that Hamilton continue to validate its rhetoric with action when dealing with financial aid.

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Letters to the Editor Policy

THE SPECTATOR'S LETTER TO THE EDITOR SECTION IS DESIGNED TO BE A FORUM FOR THE ENTIRE HAMILTON COMMUNITY TO DISCUSS AND DEBATE CAMPUS, LOCAL, NATIONAL AND GLOBAL ISSUES. PIECES PUBLISHED IN THE SECTION EXPRESS THE OPINION OF THE INDIVIDUAL WRITERS, AND ARE NOT NECESSARILY THE OPINIONS OF THE SPECTATOR, ITS EDITORS, OR THE MEDIA BOARD. LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE WELCOME FROM ALL STUDENTS, ALUMNI/AE, FACULTY, FRIENDS OF THE COLLEGE AND HAMILTON COMMUNITY MEMBERS. NEVERTHELESS, THE SPECTATOR HAS THE FOLLOWING POLICIES FOR SUBMISSION:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. Submissions can be sent by e-mail to spec@hamilton.edu or to the Opinion editors (eklondar@hamilton or aeck@hamilton.edu). The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 650 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* will not edit letters for misspelling, poor grammar or diction.
5. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
6. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

Advertisement Policy

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Technically Speaking

Thinking Differently About Print and Electronic Materials

by David Smallen
Vice President
Information Technology
Opinion Contributor

Most of us are very comfortable with print materials. We know, for example, how to "operate" a book (see "the Medieval Help Desk" on YouTube for a funny look at how the book might have been viewed as a complex technology many years ago). However, the cost to produce print materials continues to increase, while the cost to provide information electronically continues to plummet.

In these difficult financial times, how can we at Hamilton decide what should continue in print and what should only be available in electronic form? What challenges must be overcome? And what are the potential savings for the College? How should we decide which materials to move from print to electronic form?

Information that is used primarily for reference is a good candidate for electronic distribution. We need such materials just in case we have a question, rather than expecting to read the material from beginning to end. This is the kind of information we search for.

Other important factors include the cost of the publication, the intended audience, and the length of time that the information is useful/accurate. We should also always look for ways to utilize the capabilities that exist only online (for example, searching, linking to other information, adding other media). Sometimes the choice is clear, but often there are trade-offs.

There are several obstacles to moving material from print to electronic formats. The biggest challenge is change. We are creatures of habit, and we typically resist change unless someone can demonstrate that a new way is more convenient, significantly less expensive, or offers some new capability that we strongly desire.

Also, people find it difficult to read long documents on a computer screen. A long document that is intended to be read from start to finish is probably not a good candidate for electronic format since most people would rather print it out rather than read it online. If only a small number of people need to read the document or the audience is external to Hamilton, then putting it online as a PDF file will be less expensive than estimating the size of the audience and printing/distributing it and will make access to the information convenient for those who are interested.

Portability is another reason people like print materials. Print materials generally are easy to take with us wherever we go. For people who don't have convenient access to a networked computer, access to information can present an obstacle. As more people own mobile devices such as cell phones and laptop computers, access to electronic materials will become more convenient and less expensive.

The "New Faces" book (pictures of new students) is an example of reference information. This fall we created a new version that is only online. We asked students to upload their pictures electronically rather than send in a photo and we used the same picture for the Hill Card and the

see *Cut*, page 6

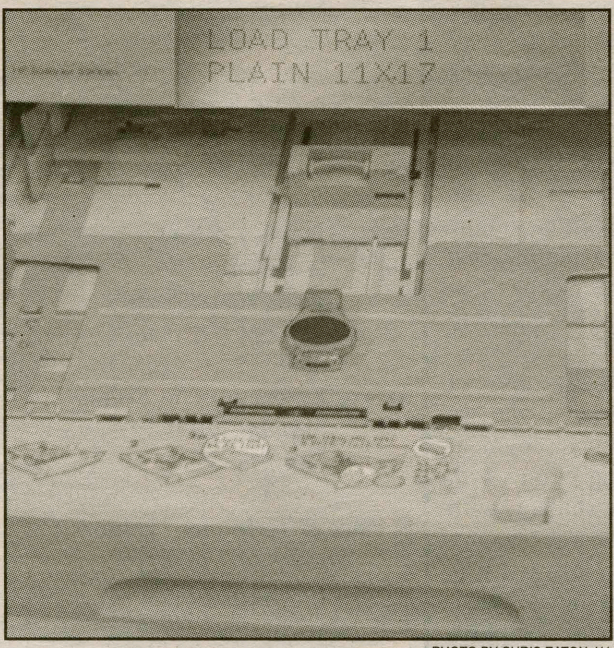


PHOTO BY CHRIS EATON '11

A switch from print to electronic materials makes reference documents more accessible.

Mind Your Manners!

By Emily Chapin '09 and Lindsey Wong '09

This week, discussing proper after-a-drunk-night etiquette

Here's the scenario:

It is Sunday morning. You wake up in your own bed wearing the clothes you went out in last night, sit up with a jolt and think "What the hell happened last night?!" A stomach churn and a bathroom trip later, you get back in bed after grabbing the essentials: cell phone, computer and water. After sending all of your friends IMs peppered with question marks and exclamation points, you should start going through your texts and dialed calls.

In situations such as this one, you have to put together the pieces of a night you don't remember. This process is always uncomfortable, and sometimes embarrassing. You might be wondering, "If I called X, what the hell did I say, and did it lead to anything else? Was I that girl pushed up against the wall in a dark corner of Bundy? Or the girl sitting alone in a Diner booth, eyes closed, dunking a bacon, egg and cheese into a warm diet Pepsi and then shoving it into her mouth? S*!t." Regardless, step one is contacting your friends. After that, you had better throw on those sweatpants and that baseball cap and head to Commons for some weekend debriefing.

"If questions still remain as to what you did, throw a Hail Mary. Summon the courage to ask, 'What happened last night?'"

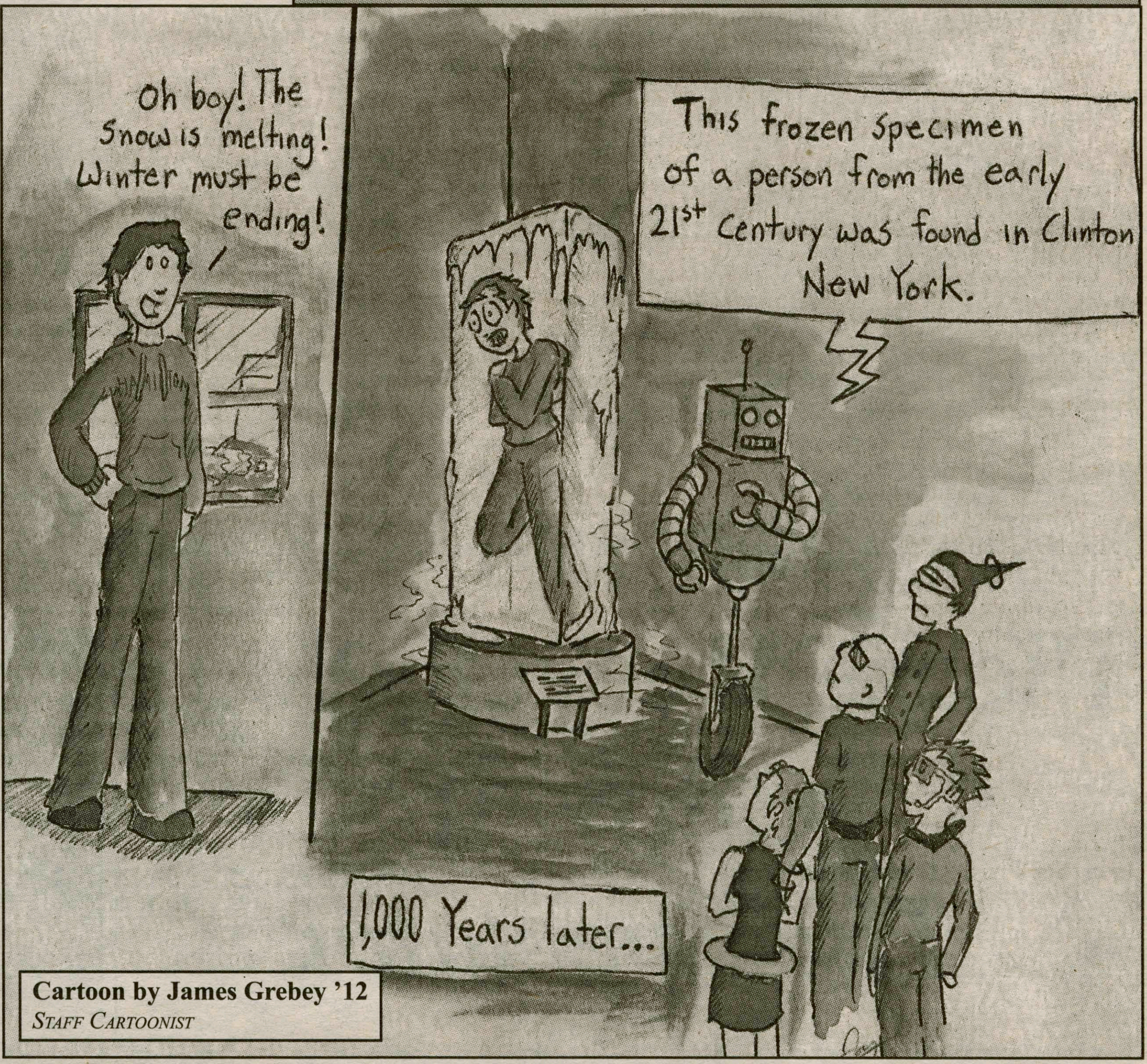
Secure a place at a table with your friends and scan the Commons catwalk. Grab a bite to eat, maybe a few fried eggs or a bagel, nothing too heavy.

Let's take a quick time out for a special note to seniors. You have eight weeks left; throw down your keys and strut through Commons, because honestly, who the hell cares?

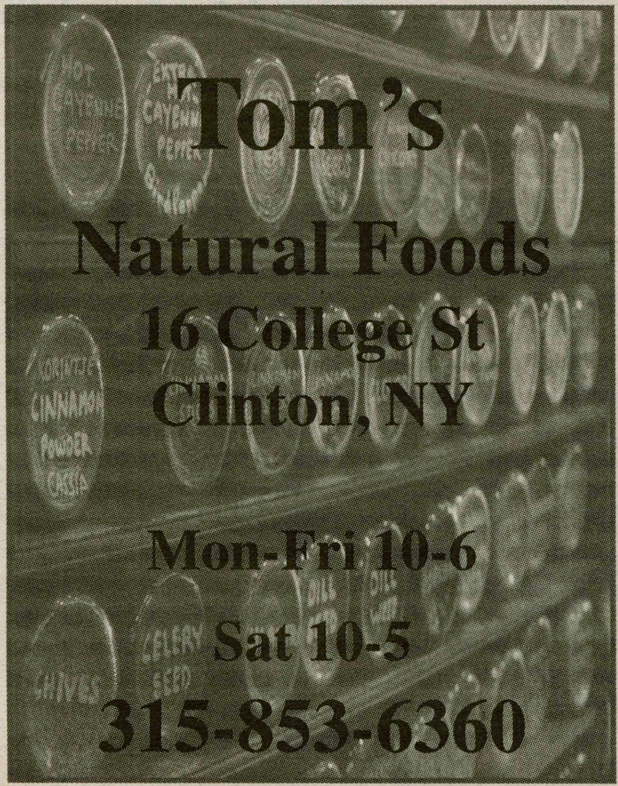
For the rest of you, use discretion and pinpoint any individuals you may have communicated with last night. If, as you approach them, they say something along the lines of "Oh my god! *You* had a good time last night!" ask what happened. However, if you catch their eye in the omelet line and they turn away, you probably made an ass out of yourself – congratulations! It's okay, play it cool and brush it off with a laugh. It happens to the best of us.

If, at the conclusion of the meal, questions still remain as to what you did, it is time to throw down a Hail Mary. Summon the courage to hit reply on that most recent text and simply ask "What happened last night?" Hopefully an incoming text will spark a flash of memory and you will begin to piece things together. If not, avoid X for a few weeks, unless X contacts you. If said person happens to be in one of your classes, that is an issue for another week. Good luck, and next time, please stick to the buddy system.

Have a question about manners? Ask Emily or Lindsey by sending them an e-mail at echapin@hamilton.edu or lwong@hamilton.edu!



Cartoon by James Grebey '12
Staff Cartoonist



From the Mailbag: This Week's Letters to the Editor

Editor's note: The following letter was supposed to be printed in its entirety in the previous week's issue. Due to a printing error, a portion of the letter was omitted. We apologize for this error, and have reprinted the original letter below, in its entirety.

To the Editor:

Hi! As a former member of The Spec Editorial board I was kind of shocked by a lack of Spec reaction to the following two quotes and more importantly the flawed ideas behind them: The first is from Daniel Steinman's 2/5/09 article discussing a faculty meeting regarding the removal of the "FF" grade and the revision of the online faculty evaluation form. "Specifically, the preamble [to the evaluation form] will not inform students that his or her anonymity may be forfeited if that student's comments are judged inappropriate."

I am assuming that this means that while students will not be informed that their anonymity will be forfeited, it still will be if their comments are "judged inappropriate." The second is from Scott Bixby's 2/13/09 news story in regards to media board finally approving funding for a publication known as "Afternoon Delight" (a clear reference to mid-day copulation in and of its self). "The reason why the Media Board had to catch up with them was to tell them that they couldn't print whatever they wanted."

Earlier in the piece Mr. Bixby referred to the "scatological humor" of Afternoon Delight as a perceived barrier to receiving funding. So here in two separate articles, we have rather blasé comments that suggest its okay to force people to: 1) not make inappropriate comments (what ever that means, but I am assuming that we are referring to language choice as opposed to idea choice) ; and 2) clean up their language in student publications.

Well, my response and what I am sure would have been the response of The Spec Editorial board when I was on it is "F*** THAT". Let me repeat myself F*** THAT. See, I just used inappropriate and scatological language to clearly and forcefully make the point that I think a lack of outrage over this sort of benign censorship is a fucking outrage. There I go again.

It is a true fact that every alumni will say "back in my day" and then hit you with some asinine tail of how thing were "cooler" back in his or her day, but the sad fact is I used to frequently use "four-letter" words in my communication with faculty both in formal missives and in the pages of this very rag. I'm not sure it was better, but it was certainly more free.

I once told a Dean in the heat of an argument to go "f*** himself" and do you know what he did? He told me the very same thing right back, with a reference to the horse I rode in on too boot. It is a more prurient example of communication between student & faculty than you would normally see, and it is most likely both dumb and unconstructive. But it is free. It is certainly honest. It is unfettered and it is also uncontrolled.

Academics have the freedom to express themselves in almost any language that they choose; all members of the academic community should have the same privilege, regardless of the forum or the level of anonymity. The whole point of the faculty evaluations is to determine faculty promotion/tenure/salary, and if a faculty member has angered or incensed a student to use a vulgar remark in their evaluation, why should anonymity be sacrificed because of this choice.

You (or the faculty committee or the department) can certainly dismiss the comment due to the choice of language, that is anyone's prerogative, but it doesn't mean this choice should force any change of protected status on the person making it. And the second that you accept that any communication in an academic discourse or a student publication should be censored, how ever benignly and for what every noble purpose, you are truly f***ed. Best Regards!

Jay Gormley '01

To the Editor:

I am writing in response to Rebekah Mintzer's review of Bo Burnham's comedy performance. The review, while highlighting some of the funnier parts of Burnham's show, left out what I felt was both the most important and the most disturbing: his racial humor.

Burnham cracked racial jokes throughout his show. I can believe that he was trying to be satirical, that he was trying to push the envelope and make his audience re-think its ideas on race. At times, I thought he might succeed.

Unfortunately the culmination of his set-up work, the song "Klan Cookout," slipped away from satire and into plain imitation. Rather than consistently making the Klan the butt of his jokes, he was willing to trade on the same stereotypes the Klan might use for cheap laughs. This is not satire. It's not even good comedy.

When Burnham smiled and sang, "And if you're black/don't wanna see your face./They're like a high school track/just a stupid race!" and "Are you a Mex-i-can?/Because you seem confused!" what was he asking us to laugh at? Was it the Klan? Or was it how witty his version of the Klan's racism was?

Despite Burnham's satirical intentions, the punchlines of those jokes are not the Klan but its victims, and in that lies his failure.

But more disturbing to me than Burnham's lyrics was the fact that no one seemed to understand or care about the kind of damage they were doing. Lyrics like that, and crowds of people laughing at them without thinking about what they really mean, do an insidious, subtle kind of damage to this country and this campus that is all the more potent because it is quiet.

Burnham's lyrics implicitly make the case that racial stereotypes are funny, not offensive, at least in certain situations. I hope that doesn't seem like a valid position to anyone, but in case it does, let me present a likely line of reasoning that follows from it.

If racial stereotypes are funny in certain situations, then it's okay that they exist because in certain situations they serve a useful purpose. If in certain situations they serve a useful purpose, then it's okay to perpetuate them because there is value in them. Therefore it must be okay to keep using racial stereotypes in certain situations, despite the damage they do to people's lives in every situation, simply because they're occasionally good for a laugh.

If this seems to you like a line of reasoning no one is likely to follow, ask yourself what goes through the head of a person telling a black joke in a room full of white people. If your reaction is "Well, we keep other things around that damage people's lives because they're useful in certain situations," ask yourself whether that laughter is worth the cost it incurs.

A friend of mine, when I told him I was going to write this letter, asked who had died and made me the arbiter of social good and evil. My response was simple: Nobody, and I'm not. But someone had to say something, and no one else seemed likely to.

In the past, I've been happy to laugh at those who suggest Hamilton students are unaware or callous about the way their actions affect others. Burnham's show, the crowd's reaction to it, and the Spectator's failure to address even obliquely his racial humor, have made me reconsider.

Please, Hamilton. Prove me wrong. The next time some comedian throws out a racial stereotype and asks for a laugh, give a boo instead. Barring that, give an awkward silence. Barring that, at least talk about whether or not the joke was racist afterwards.

Jeff Seymour '09

Thumbs up

I know we've beaten this to death, but can we all just take a step back and appreciate what a stunning failure the outdoor ice rink was?

Senior/Professor happy hour: Just in case my essays didn't adequately demonstrate my stupidity, please come watch me drink at the pub.

Professors get tenure: Thank God, now we can finally stop doing work in Comparative Politics and start watching vaguely relevant movies like *Underworld: Rise of the Lycans*.

Student meeting on alcohol culture: At 7 p.m. on a Wednesday, all the real experts are wasted.

Thumbs down

Silly hat-wearing pledges: Sure, you look like a moron now, but you'll be the one laughing when you make someone else do it next year! Just like child abuse!

Everyone getting sick: Thanks for coughing on me in my history seminar. I see your common cold and I raise you chlamydia.

The Spring Break gym rush: This is why we make New Year's resolutions in January. It's too late for you.

Facebook chat: If the creators had any idea what they were doing they would have made a template so that every message sent begins with "I know you'd never want to speak with me in person, but..."

Who cares?

Midterms: F*** this s***. I can see grass.

"I can see grass": As if dead frozen flora is somehow indicative of warmth. I'll start being optimistic when I can walk across campus without my nutsack freezing to my thigh.

The Alcohol Coalition asks us, "Do we have an alcohol problem?" The real question is, "Do you have a *judgement* problem?"

ASB silent auction: You're going to be disappointed unless one of those free hotel rooms comes with a complimentary half-nude, oiled-up Eric Kuhn.

Gmail: If only because it's somehow astute enough to put all those senior gift requests in the spam box.

by Steve Allinger '09, Jason Brown '09 & Matt Fellows '09

Disclaimer: The jokes submitted in this column are based on nothing and, for the most part, are not funny. Please read them with the understanding that you are not enriching yourself in any way. If you are easily offended, or a huge b*!ch, you should avoid this column at all costs.

Cut Printing, Not Trees

*from **Technically**, page 5*

"New Faces" book. 85 percent of the new students were able to do this successfully. The remaining pictures were taken when students arrived on campus and were added to the online version.

This new procedure saved about $2,500 in direct printing costs and hours of staff time, and the new version was more comprehensive.

"As more people own mobile phones and laptops, access to electronic material will become less expensive."

This year the printed version of the campus telephone directory was shortened and the capabilities of the online directory were expanded. This combination of more concise print materials coupled with more comprehensive online materials may be an effective compromise.

Other examples of print materials produced at Hamilton include the course catalog, a variety of handbooks, campus telephone directory, admission and alumni materials, a variety of publications such as *The Spectator*, *Daily Bull* and *The Continental*, and posters/flyers that advertise campus programsand events. These materials cost several hundred thousand dollars per year to produce and distribute and should be considered for transition to online versions.

Ultimately, our thresholds of convenience, expense, and enhanced capabilities will be met and the balance will be tipped to electronic formats rather than print for much of what we do at Hamilton. It won't happen tomorrow, or the next day, but it will be sooner than most of us might think.

L1 O1 G2 I1 C3 P3 U1 Z10 Z10 L1 E1

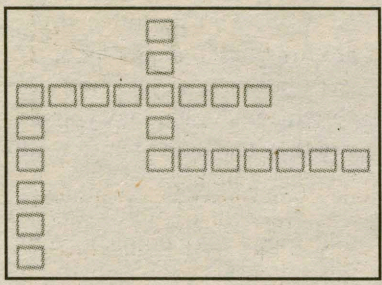
by Russell Marcus
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

The Puzzle

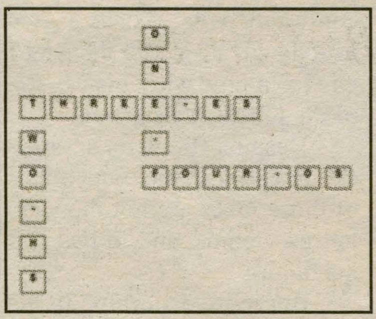
Self-referential sentences have long puzzled philosophers and are hot topics in philosophy and logic journals today because of their ramifications for mathematics, language and metaphysics. **Every entry in the self-referential crossword puzzles below contains a number spelled-out, folowed by a blank space, a letter, and an "S" where a plural is appropriate. All entries accurately describe the completed puzzle.**

Here is a simple puzzle, and its solution.

Puzzle #1

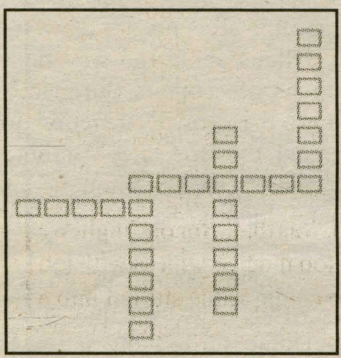


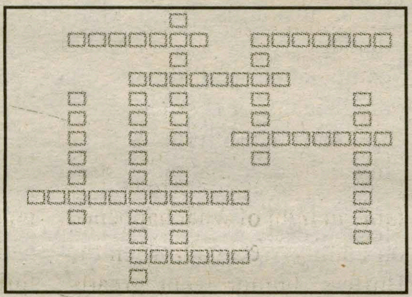
Puzzle #1: Solution



Note that the solution to Puzzle #1 contains the (lower horizontal) entry 'Four Os'; there are in fact four 'O's in the puzzle. There is also one 'F', three 'E's and and two 'H's, just as the other entries say. Here is another simple puzzle, for you to complete.

Puzzle #2 & #3





Call one of these puzzles complete if, for every letter token in the puzzle, there is an entry which states how many instances of that letter type appear in the completed puzzle. Thus, if there are any "Z"s in the puzzle, there will be one (and only one) entry which states exactly how many "Z"s there are. The following puzzle is complete. I believe that it is the only complete one of its type possible. (While there is only one entry for each letter, some numbers may appear more than once).

Rules

Completed solutions to Puzzles #2 (several different solutions) and #3 (only one correct solution) may be sent to Russell Marcus via campus mail. Make sure to include your contact information with your solution.

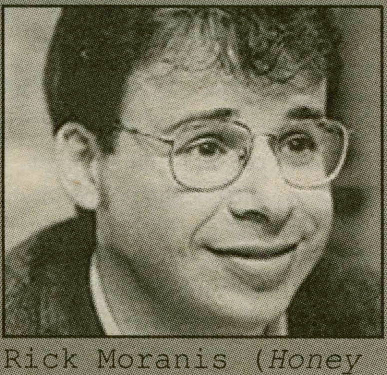
A winner for the contest will be chosen at random from among the correctly completed entries.

Grids may be printed from our website: www.thatmarcusfamily.org/philosophy/Puzzles/Puzzles_Home.htm

The Deadline for the receipt of entries for Puzzle #5 is Tuesday, March 10, at 4p.m.

Separated at Birth?

Stu Lombardi '09



Rick Moranis (*Honey I Shrunk The Kids*)

Got ideas? Send look-a-likes to LMOON

by Johanna Pajak '09
FEATURES COLUMNIST

Peanut butter and jelly, wine and cheese, coffee and cigarettes; no, I'm not talking about ways to incorporate food into your sex life (you'll have to stay tuned for that edition). I'm talking about great combinations: things that are good alone, but even better together. Among these ranks is definitely the age-old team-up of sex and music. Can't you picture cro-magnon man and cro-magnon lady getting it on in their love cave to the sounds of distant drumming? I sure can, whether I want to or not.

But while sex and music are so inexorably linked, picking the right tune for the right mood doesn't always come so naturally. As one recent reader asked:

What's the best music to bone to? Also, what's the best music to make sweet, sweet love to? Furthermore, what's the worst music to awkwardly bump uglies to?

- Bumpin' to Barry (White, that is)

The issue raised by this reader is the reality that, in the same way that there are many varieties of sex, there is a wide array of genres and artists to choose from to accompany your endeavor.

Of course, there are the classics: Barry White, Marvin Gaye, Isaac Hayes, etc. The problem with these guys is that they have become such a cliché that putting them on doesn't really get anyone in the mood, it kind of just makes you giggle and freak out. This is because, as a result of their overt sexual connotations, to play these artists is sort of like jumping up and down, clapping your hands and yelling "Oh my God, we are totally going to have sex right now! We're doin' it! Yes, let's have some sexy sex right now!" If that's what

you're going for then, by all means, turn up the Marvin Gaye and let the fornication commence.

So, what do you play if you don't want to make this impression? For "boning," as it were, anything with a good, moderately fast beat will work. I think instrumentals are best in this case because sometimes lyrics can be distracting but songs like Keta Kuti's "Expensive S**t" and Beck's "Tropicalia" could work as well.

Van Morrison's album *Astral Weeks* is great for "making sweet, sweet love" to and anything by Sigur Rós has the same effect. There is something to be said for making sweet love to the sounds of your own emotive noises but this can sometimes be inconsiderate to those around you, especially in the close quarters which we all inhabit.

When you're "awkwardly bumping uglies" you pretty much have free reign. See how crazy you can get. I think some intense classical would work, try Beethoven's 9th, or even the Grieg's In the Hall of the Mountain King. I once knew a guy who felt that he performed best to *The Last of the Mohicans* soundtrack but he had a hard time finding a woman who could get into that, for obvious reasons.

The great thing about playing something unexpected during awkward hook-ups is that it can serve as a compatibility test. There's not a lot to lose when you're "bumping uglies," and a person's taste in sexy time music can say a lot about him or her. Put on the music you appreciate as potential but atypical love makin' sounds and see how your sex-interest reacts. If you put on some song or artist you've always wanted to get down to and he or she runs for the hills, it probably wasn't meant to be anyway. If he or she is receptive, maybe there's potential to go from "awkwardly bumping uglies" to "comfortably humping on the regular" and then, who knows, you guys could be joyously boning to *The Last of the Mohicans* soundtrack every night of the week!

Please send your thoughts to: specbetweenthesheets@gmail.com. Names will be confidential, advice will be practical, and humor will be plentiful.

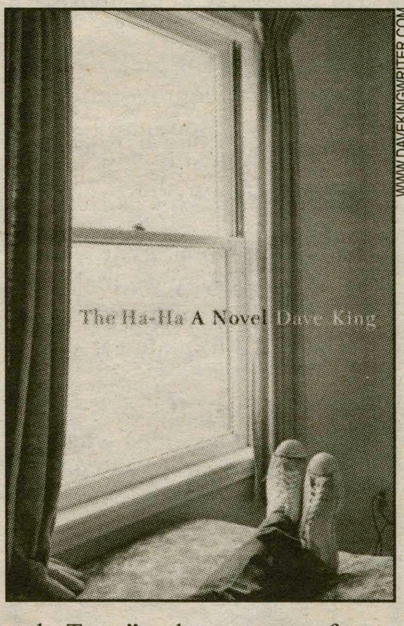
Wise Words from Writer in Residence

by Jessie Brown '12
FEATURES WRITER

Every year Hamilton brings a budding writer to the campus for the Writer in Residence program. For the week, the writer visits creative writing and literature classes, works with senior creative writing concentrators to discuss their manuscripts, and does a public reading. The creative writing faculty is responsible for choosing the writer, says Associate Professor of English Doran Larson. While they usually alternate between fiction and poetry writers, ideally they find a writer who does both. The program has been in existence for over a decade.

The 2009 Writer in Residence is Dave King, a New York resident who writes both fiction and poetry. King holds a BFA from Cooper Union in New York in painting and film and an MFA from Columbia University in writing. He was a painter before he became a writer.

King had his public reading on Wednesday, Feb. 25 in the Fillius Events Barn. The evening included a reading of his poem "My Heart Disappears Among



the Trees" and two excerpts from his debut novel *The Ha-Ha*. The latter is about a Vietnam veteran named Howard who lives with a neurological disorder that makes it almost impossible for him to read, prevents him from writing and inhibits his speech beyond uttering the word "not." The story begins with him taking in nine-year-old Ryan, the son of his high school sweetheart Sylvia, for eight weeks. His two months with the child teach him the importance of love and reveal his "rage for what he has lost," as King put it, and for the next eight weeks, he struggles to "reconcile the two."

The Ha-Ha gets its title from a landscaping element, which King described as "an optical illusion, almost." It occurs when land has a break in it that is invisible from a distance and so looks continuous. In the novel, a highway creates a ha-ha in the peaceful convent in which Howard works.

The novel received many awards in 2005, including recognition from *The Washington Post* for being one of the season's best books. Only 17 other novels received the same commendation. It was also a finalist for the Book-of-the-Month Club's "Best Literary Fiction" award and won King the American Academy of Art and Letters' 2006-2007 Rome Prize Fellowship.

Humanities Talk Addresses Digital Awareness of South Africa

by Hadley Keller '12
Features Writer

There is no denying that our generation is living in a digital world. Homework assignments, weather forecasts, and even newspapers are all available through the Internet, and the trading in of the physical for the digital is becoming more and more common around the world. But in some regions, such digitization is not as natural as at Hamilton where every student has his ever-ready Mac Book.

In his presentation, "The Problem with Heritage in South Africa," Dr. Angel D. Nieves, Hamilton Associate Professor of Africana Studies, addressed some of the issues facing South Africa in this age of technology while describing a project he has undertaken to digitize African history in order to preserve culture and heritage.

Dr. Nieves opened the lecture by tying his subject in with the liberal arts method. He insisted that teaching at Hamilton enabled him to see firsthand the importance of a liberal arts education and to recognize that while the liberal arts are not necessarily "intended to prepare students for a specific vocation," the emphasis on humanities at schools like Hamilton has a "meaningful purpose" in educating students about the world in which they live and promoting positive change in that world.

He noted that Hamilton has been one of many schools to promote a new liberal arts tradition using available technology, incorporating the "urgent" feeling of necessity in teaching the sciences while still preserving liberal arts values. Nieves credits the Burke Library, ITS, and Hamilton professors for trying to expand curriculums to take advantage of the digital world, therefore avoiding what he calls the "Digital Divide."

Here, Nieves transitioned into talking about the actual "problem with heritage in South Africa." He noted that much of the nation's cultural identity remains hidden simply because it has never been archived. The history of South Africa that we do see is often edited, and told only through the eyes of, or in reference to, the more well known activists, such as Nelson Mandela. Without discrediting these sources, Nieves pointed out that there are many many untold stories of the nation's history, stories belonging to women and others whose voices have been silenced. It is here that he emphasizes the "emancipatory potential" of technology to digitally archive these stories and make them available to millions of people. By digitizing these untold stories, Nieves explains, we might begin to "broaden the horizons of democracy" and in so doing, perhaps begin a reconciliatory process – something which cannot be done until subjugated peoples are allowed to remember and share their social injustices.

To begin this process, Dr. Nieves, along with Ali Khangela Hlongwane, Chief Curator of Soweto, South Africa's Hector Pieterson Memorial Museum, has taken on the process of creating a "digital memory bank" in which activists, victims, and museum visitors alike may write their stories. This creation of an online forum goes along with the Museum's efforts, started in 2006, to digitize its archival collections in order to make them available to a broader range of people than those who are able to visit the actual museum site.

The museum itself is named for Hector Pieterson, one of over 500 student protesters killed in the Soweto Uprising of 1976. At the time of the uprising, which began as a peaceful protest and ended in bloodshed, the media reported only 20 student deaths, and it was only through certain photographs seen in American newspapers that the severity of the event resonated with global audiences. The museum aims to undermine this silencing by acting as a repository for the unseen histories which revolve around the uprising. The "Soweto 76" website is a way of making these stories further available.

In an attempt to make the events of the Soweto Uprising even more available, Nieves proposes a "virtual Soweto." The feature will offer a virtual tour of the Soweto Township, giving historical and cultural facts relating to the township and its infamous uprising. Visitors will have the opportunity to add their own personal stories or comments to be read by future visitors of the site. The end goal of "Soweto 76 3D" is to create a complete and widely available archive "framed around social justice." Again tying the lecture back to Liberal Arts education, Nieves encourages the use of the website in the classroom.

To further attest to the academic value of such a digital reality, Hamilton student Lyndra Vassar '09 provided a response to Nieves' lecture. After emphasizing the importance of her own liberal arts education, Vassar explained how Soweto 76, which she and her peers sampled in one of Nieves' Africana Studies classes, "provides a hook for engaged classroom discussion" and acts as a "virtual time machine," enabling students to really get a grasp of the firsthand experiences about which they are learning, something especially important in the study of History.

Furthermore, Vassar pointed out that having such means of digital learning provides opposition to common misconceptions on race, class and gender. She gave the example of white students thinking that they shouldn't take Africana Studies, or males Women's Studies, and pointed out that digital subjects "offer a new vehicle of reaching students" and encourages communication between students of different backgrounds.

Since our adolescent experiences have been shaped by technology and the internet, it shouldn't be hard for our generation to become accustomed to learning through such a digitized world. Next time we're browsing Facebook, or checking our e-mail, we might just be able to stop in on Soweto. And that ability for access, as both Nieves and Vassar emphasized, is what is most important.

The only way to produce change is to spread awareness, and what better way of spreading it than through the ever expanding worldwide network that is the internet?

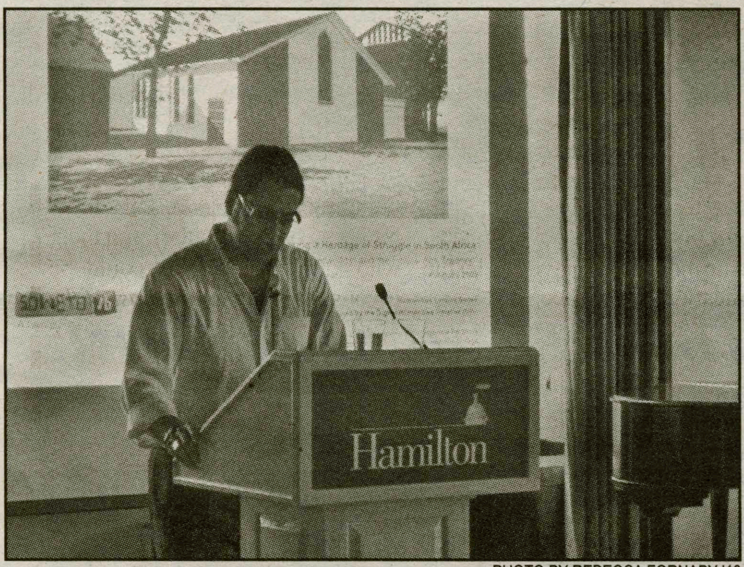


PHOTO BY REBECCA FORNABY '10

Dr. Angel Nieves, Associate Professor of Africana Studies, presents his lecture "The Problem with Heritage in South Africa."

PHOTO COURTESY OF COLIN CHAPIN '12

Buffers Singing a New Tune?

by Lily Gillespie '12
Features Writer

There are few on this campus who would deny that the Buffers have a certain charm; perhaps it's the blazers, or the fact that they happen to be really talented, or maybe it's the fact that they don't mind being just a little bit raunchy. However, there have been times when some-- both from the campus community and the outside-- have felt that the Buffers went just a little too far.

Many would consider their "Bountiful Harvest" concert, apart from the occasional abortion joke, to have been relatively tame in light of what happened on Family Weekend, when the Buffers' humor went greatly unappreciated by many.

The Spectator received multiple scathing letters to the editor following that performance, including one by Chelsea Mann '09, who stated in the opening line of her letter that "During Family Weekend, I witnessed what I considered to be one of the most misogynistic Buffers a capella concerts performed thus far."

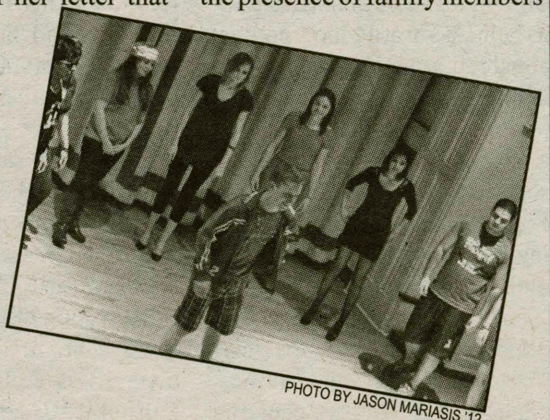


PHOTO BY JASON MARIASIS '12

Parents and former alums also showed great concern about the nature of the performance, so much so that the Buffers were forced to tone down the show for the following night's concert.

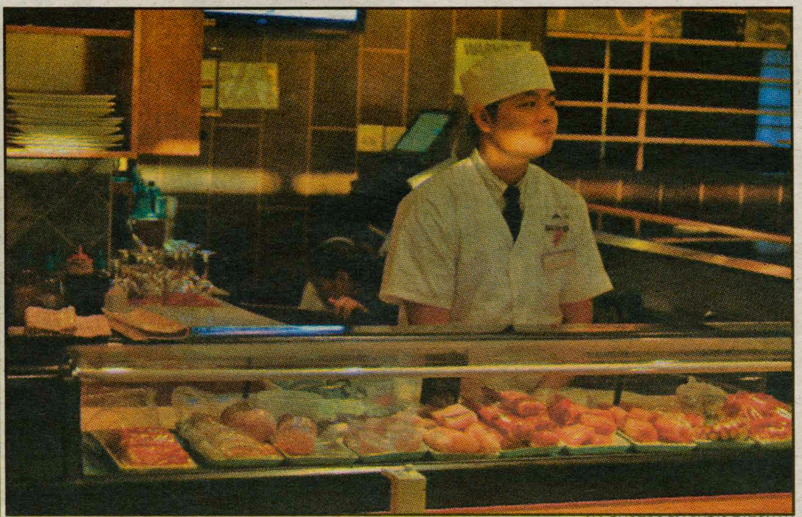
However, more recent concerts, including this past Saturday's invitational with two other groups from Union and Hobart, have shown that the Buffers can pull off a slightly raunchy, but very funny performance. So what, if anything, has changed since the Family Weekend incident?

Buffer Senior Aaron Richterman commented that little has changed and that "our comedy has been hit-or-miss in the sense that there are always people in the audience who enjoy it just as there are always those who hate it." The Buffers have traditionally offered a disclaimer at the beginning of their shows, acknowledging that the program may offend some. Although done humorously, it illustrates that the Buffers have faced some ramifications of the raunchiness in their concerts. The portion of Buffers concerts which is often the raciest is what they call the RAVE section, perhaps better known as the "If I were not a Buffer…" piece of the program. It was this particular element of the concert on Family Weekend that had people so up in arms.

Richterman also acknowledges that the Buffers were quick to realize they had gone too far, and sent a letter of apology to the *Spectator*. Part of the problem, according to Richterman, was that, "for one night we had too much edginess with too little comic value stuffed into a ten minute period, leaving many people (parents, especially) with a sour taste in their mouths." The nature of the audience may have also played a role in the Buffers' reception that night, for the presence of family members and alums may very well have heightened the discomfort with the Buffers' humor.

It is unfortunate that the Buffers were so poorly received on that one occasion, a performance Richterman labels an "aberration," for the majority of Buffers' concerts are actually very well-behaved and always well-performed. This weekend's concert was an example of this. They chose touching, popular, and classic songs, ending the evening with a truly phenomenal performance of "Fly Me to the Moon," whose choreography would have given Tony Bennett and Frank Sinatra a run for their money. The point is, the Buffers' humor needs to be taken in stride, and if this is done, their concerts will be recognized not for their offensiveness, but for the talent displayed.

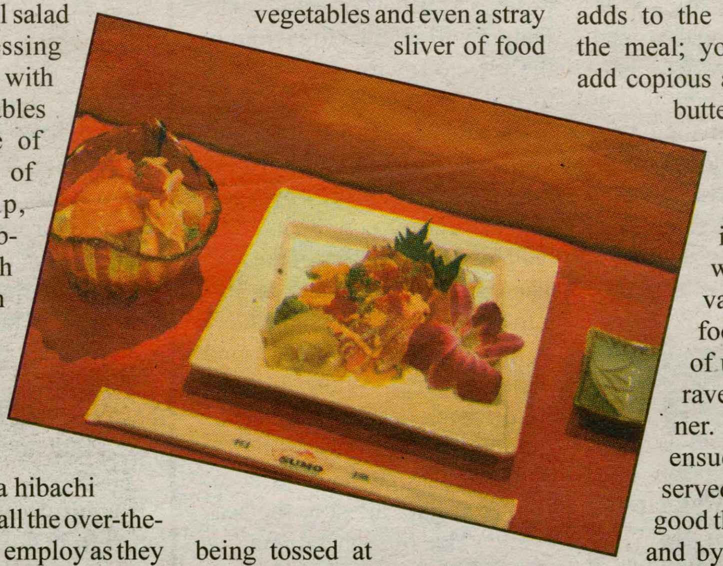
Worth Getting off the Hill For: Sumo Japanese Cuisine



ALL PHOTOS BY CHRIS EATON '11

by Elizabeth Starnes '11
Features Writer

If you've grown tired of Commons and have had your fill of Mitsuba and Minar, there's another option for international food off the Hill. Sumo Japanese Restaurant is located right across the street from the Marquee Cinemas in New Hartford and has a lot to offer in both food and entertainment. The restaurant offers three different options for dining, including regular tables in the main room, separate Tatami rooms for groups and hibachi-style dining complete with seating centered around cast-iron cooking grills. The hibachi room is the best option for a big group, with its boisterous atmosphere, entertaining chefs and extensive menu. Each cooking grill seats eight people. For around $20, your Sumo hibachi dinner includes miso soup, a small salad with ginger dressing and a main meal with fried rice, vegetables and your choice of any combination of chicken, shrimp, salmon, steak, lobster or tofu. Each grill gets its own hibachi chef, who fills the role of both chef and entertainer.



Anyone who has been to a hibachi restaurant can recall the over-the-top style the chefs employ as they prepare each meal with flourish and embellishment, and Sumo is no different. Diners can expect flaming onion volcanoes, sword and spatula tricks, flying eggs and vegetables and even a stray sliver of food being tossed at them by the chef. The chefs are also prone to squirting "water" into the mouths of unsuspecting diners. Don't be fooled, it really is sake. This leads some tables to become exceptionally rowdy, looking like they would be more at home in Bundy dining hall than at a restaurant, but this just ups the entertainment factor. If someone in your group is approaching a birthday or you just want to thoroughly embarrass one of your friends, be sure to tell the waiter. They will bring out a dessert complete with a candle, a hoard of singing waiters and lots of obnoxious gong-banging. All of this activity and show adds to the anticipation of the meal; you watch the chef add copious amounts of spices, butter and garlic to the food, doling each part out onto your plate as he finishes it. I'm not sure if it was our late reservation or having our food cooked in front of us, but we were all ravenous for our dinner. The silence that ensued after we were served underscored how good the whole meal was, and by the end of dinner there were clean plates all around. Sumo is not the place to go for a light meal, but if you come with an appetite you won't be disappointed.

In addition to the hibachi dinner, Sumo also offers sushi and other traditional Japanese fare, accommodating a wide range of palates and levels of culinary adventurousness. Conveniently, if you find yourself too full to make the trip back to the Hill after your dinner, you can take in a movie right across the street and buy yourself another two hours to digest.

Sumo is located at :
4671 Commercial Drive
New Hartford, NY
(Telephone: 315-768-8885)

Race and Sexuality Panel Raises Important Questions

by Jessie Brown '12
Features Writer

PHOTO BY JASON MARIASIS '12

On Wednesday, Feb. 25, Rainbow Alliance and Sigma Lambda Upsilon/Señoritas Latinas Unidas Sorority Incorporated sponsored a panel discussion of the intersection of race and sexuality, a topic rarely addressed. The panel, comprised of students and professors of varying races and sexualities, talked about topics ranging from coming out to the climate at Hamilton.

Coming out is often difficult and uncomfortable, especially in black and Hispanic families, which tend to be very centered on religion.

"My father is ex-military. Both of my parents are Catholic," said Tyrone Evans '09. The combination of a black, ex-military Catholic father and a Hispanic Catholic mother led to a series of events in order to "fix" his homosexuality, including a psychiatrist and a session with a priest.

Beyond religion, some cultures do not grasp the concept of being gay.

"[My father's] family doesn't understand having a pet [animals are for food or protection], let alone being gay," said Mica Warton '09, who credits her "white, liberal mom" for forcing her father to accept her. "She told him, 'You are going to be okay with this.'"

Some cannot even come out to their entire families because they know that they will not face acceptance. Stephanie Tafur '10, has not come out to her sister because her bisexuality challenges her culture's gender roles. Her sister, according to Tafur, is married, owns her car and house, is pregnant and therefore embodies what a Latina woman should be. Her culture makes her feel as though she is "not the right kind of Latina I'm supposed to be."

Though the panelists may have found acceptance with some family and friends, Hamilton does not necessarily accept them. Part of the problem is that Hamilton is so small that attaining true diversity is a challenge. Robyn Gibson, '10, claims that "as a black, bisexual woman, the place isn't ideal socially" and that she has trouble finding people with whom she can identify.

With historically homophobic institutions such as religion and men's sports so prevalent on campus, another issue arises in trying to find a safe space. Warton mentioned that she and others found a small group quickly, but that the group did not grow, and she rarely felt comfortable outside of that group.

The biggest challenge perhaps is feeling safe on the Hill. The panelists had varying responses as to whether they felt safe on campus.

"I think I feel comfortable here because I haven't been in a relationship with a woman," admitted Gibson, adding that she probably would not be comfortable dating a woman here.

Comfort and safety are two separate issues, though.

"I do feel safe at Hamilton, but I know if something happened, nothing would happen," Evans stated. Considering the vague e-mails following threatening incidents, he does have a point. This semester, someone vandalized the driveway of Ferguson, using chalk to write "Fags" and draw an arrow pointing to the building. "[The] arrow [is] a target, and that makes me feel unsafe," Warton said. An RA in Ferguson sent out a notice of incident to only the residents, but no further action was taken.

Warton, Evans, Tafur, and Randall Mason '11 agreed that they find such responses "offensive" and call them "insufficient." E-mails from the administration gloss over the incidents, conclude with unclear warnings and do nothing to bring attention to the seriousness of the incidents, let alone acknowledge that many of them are hate crimes. Such e-mails feel "half-hearted," as if administration sent them out of obligation, Warton commented. While no one was visibly hurt by the vandalism at Ferguson, she points out, "Violence is not always visible, and this is a violent campus—violently ignorant."

Mason's term for the climate of Hamilton is "sunshowery"—sunny because, to the general population, it seems diverse in that there are various races on campus, and showery because they only "accept pieces of me;" his homosexuality is not embraced as quickly as his race. Though Hamilton accepts only the brightest students, Mason described them as "the brightest ignorant people." Evans agreed, stating that too often people "use knowledge to oppress." The evidence of this is clear; in the majority of states in the US, it is still legal to fire an employee for being gay.

Progress comes slowly—"with all deliberate speed," remarked Warton—but it is visible. Evans mentioned his boyfriend's recognition of how different life is for gays today versus fifty or even twenty years ago. "That gives me hope."

Power Shift 2009 Takes Washington by Storm

26 Hamiltonians, 12,000 Others, Gather to Advocate for Environmental Action in Government

by Elijah LaChance '10
Science & Technology Editor

"Empowering." "Inspirational." "Enlightening." "Life-changing." "Energetic." "Intense." These are the words Hamilton participants in Power Shift 2009 brought back from their experiences in Washington, D.C.

The event included over 12,000 students, activists and citizens from all 50 states. The Hamilton contingent was 26 people; two rode up with Colgate because the interest was so high. After a long drive Feb. 27 eating dinner in parking lots and meeting new friends, the group arrived at the Washington, D.C. Convention Center in the nation's capital. "It was huge," said Catie Ferrara '11, the coordinator of the Hamilton contingent. "No, seriously," added Olivia Wolfgang-Smith '11.

With three blocks worth of space, the participants had plenty of variety as they spent their mornings in workshops or at panels, their afternoons at caucuses and breakouts organized by state, race, and even sexual orientation, and their evenings listening to keynote speakers and rocking out at concerts. "The Roots played Saturday night. That was great," said Will Gowen '11.

The keynote speakers ranged from members of Congress like Rep. Ed Markey to green entrepeneurs such as Bill McKibbon and Van Jones. Of Markey, a powerful leader and advocate for climate change in the House of Representatives, Jennifer Kleindienst '09 said, "It was great to hear a Congressman with that kind of energy." "He played off the crowd a lot," agreed Gowen.

In general, a get-it-done attitude seemed to prevade the speakers, with many of them emphasizing the length of time they had been in the field and how far the cause had come. One example was McKibbon, who said that since he had been in the business so long he had grown tired of words. Instead, he used numbers to rally the crowd. McKibbon leads the 350 initiative, an effort to bring the level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere below 350 parts per million (ppm). Currently, the level is "at least 385" said Gowen. Ferrara added, "and rising." The website for the group is www.350.org.

Kleindienst said, "the workshops were more helpful than the panels," noting that at one workshop a 12-year old boy pointed out different kinds of lighting in the room. "He knew more than I did, and I'm a person who cares about this kind of thing," said Kleindienst, who is the head of the Recycling Task Force at Hamilton.

Wolfgang-Smith was struck by a workshop called "Better Transportation Now." "It was really focused on practical applications," she said. "It talked about various initiatives: high-speed trains, pod cars. It was exciting." Gowen attended a panel on the impacts of uranium mining where members of the panel ranged from members of aboriginal tribes to a French nuclear physicist to the actor James Cromwell.

Mikayla Irle '12 mentioned another workshop, "Pathways Out of Poverty," run by the Green For All program started by Van Jones. "It took former prisoners and got them working in green jobs," explained Irle. "The presentation was about investing in an economy that has green jobs." The organization's website is www.greenforall.org.

All the participants mentioned a three-hour symposium known as "Awakening the Dreamer," a nationally-touring show dedicated to working toward environmental and spiritual improvement in the world. At one point, the group had the participants walk around as if going to class and then stop and stare at another participant. The group explained that this stranger, too was working for the environmental cause. "Then they asked us to express how we felt about this person," said Gowen. "95 percent of the people hugged each other."

On the afternoon of Sunday, March 1, participants started lobby training. 13 Hamiltonians were part of the event-capping Lobby Day, and several others joined in the training. Professional lobbyists worked with participants to prepare a game plan when approaching members of Congress. "The lobbyists role-played different types of Congresspeople: one laid-back and on our side, one very conservative, one moderate," said Ferrara. "It was cool; I've never done something like that before."

Each lobbying group consisted of a leader, a personal storyteller, supporters and a "pitcher" who explained the bill Power Shift participants want to see passed by Congress by December, 2009. Details of the plan are available on www.powershift.org. The pitcher also made the "hard ask," asking whether the Representative or Senator would be supporting the bill. Hamilton students lobbied for over half a dozen states and covered all roles.

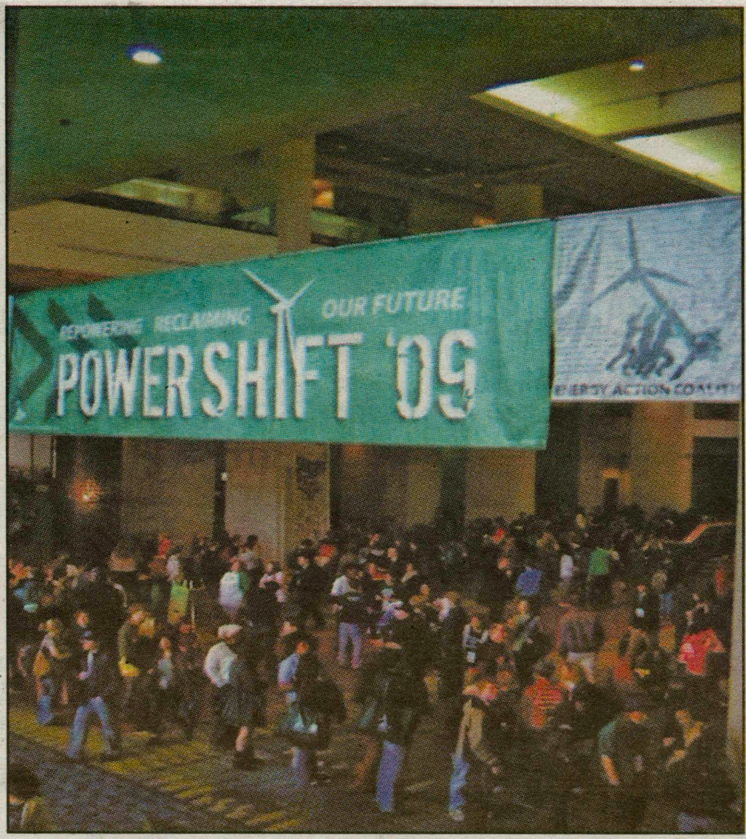
The next day, the participants were ready for the real thing. March 2 dawned cold in Washington, D.C., with "about six inches of wet stuff" on the ground, according to Ferrara. However, the weather was nothing close to some of the things Hamilton participants had seen on the Hill. Wolfgang-Smith said, "Physical Plant would have had no problem." Nevertheless, the Federal government was on a two-hour delay. Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, scheduled to be the featured speaker at the rally, cancelled due to flight delays. Her replacement was longtime environmental activist Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.

The day began with a march on a power plant usually powered with coal, which the 2,500 protestors shut down for the day. As the crowd approached the power plant, Irle described what happened next. "There was a woman and her little boy. She was waving and smiling at us... Then the crowd started chanting, 'This is for you! This is for you!' She was smiling and waving and clapping. It was amazing."

The rallies continued with a march on the Capitol with over 12,000 participating. Despite the cold, the chants rang out loud and clear. The Hamilton participants remembered one in particular. "Tell me what democracy looks like. This is what democracy looks like!" Gowen summarized, "We've come back energized, awakened, and ready to create change."

Will Gowen '11, Will Thoreson-Green '12, Fiona Rennie '12, Bethany O'Meara '12 and Katrina Rabeler '12 brave the cold as they carry their signs down First Street.

Olivia Wolfgang-Smith '11 and Catie Ferrara '11 at a debriefing session after the green rally on March 2.



Participants mill at the Washington Convention Center.

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF CATIE FERRARA '11

Scenes from the rally March 2. In the middle panel, Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. addresses the crowd. Despite bitter cold, over 12,000 people attended.

Satellite Collision Leads to Concern

by Yinghan Ding '12
Science & Technology Writer

For decades, space experts have warned that orbital space around the planet is growing so crowded that two satellites may one day slam into one another, producing swarms of treacherous debris. The prediction came true last Tuesday, when two communications satellites — one Russian, one American — shattered in silent destruction.

According to an e-mail alert issued by NASA Wednesday, Russia's Cosmos 2251 satellite slammed into the American craft at 11:55 a.m. EST (04:55 GMT) over Siberia at an altitude of 790 km. The incident was observed by the U.S. Defense Department's Space Surveillance Network, which later tracked the resulting clouds of debris.

The American satellite was an Iridium commercial satellite which measured more than 12 feet long and weighed 1,235 pounds. The Russian satellite, however, was a military satellite that was said to be defunct. The crash happened about 490 miles above Earth's surface, a very popular altitude for orbit used by Earth-tracking and communications satellites.

The collision was a disaster. In the aftermath, military radars on the ground tracked large amounts of debris diffusing into higher and lower orbits. Collision experts in NASA said that "the crash has generated an estimated tens of thousands of pieces of space junk that could circle Earth and threaten other satellites for the next 10,000 years."

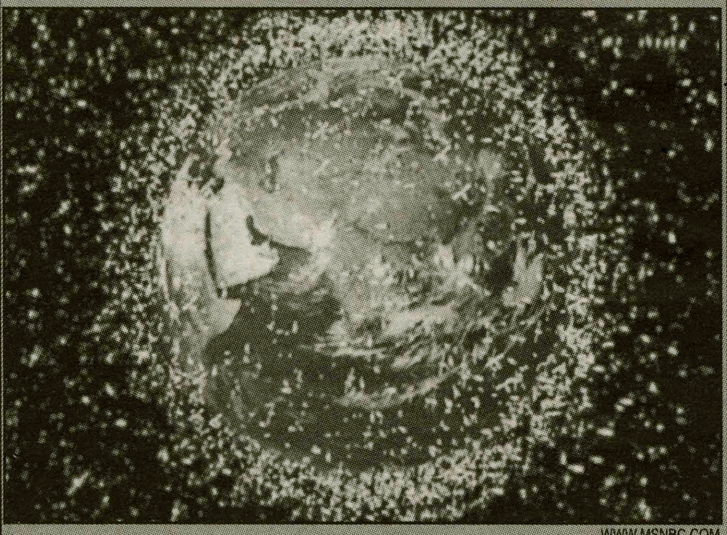
According to the Union of Concerned Scientists' Global Security team, the tens of thousands of particles were generally larger than one centimeter (about half an inch) and could therefore significantly damage or even destroy a satellite. The U.S. military reported that some 17,000 pieces of space debris were even larger than two to four inches. The U.S. Strategic Command, the agency responsible for tracking orbital debris, keeps tabs on about 18,000 objects orbiting Earth, including operational and defunct satellites, spent rocket boosters and debris that is at least 3.9 inches in diameter.

When Hamilton Professor of Physics Peter Millett was asked for his reaction to the collision, he replied, "My first reaction is that the collision between these satellites has produced a volume of shrapnel that I'm inclined to believe is more dangerous than the consolidated pieces were previously. It may be like going duck hunting with former Vice President Cheney: where do you stand so you don't get hit? Small pieces of material moving at high velocity, such as the debris from this collision, can damage expensive communications satellites and can be fatal to personnel. It would seem that we may have to learn how to do garbage collection in space."

The debris is also a threat to the International Space Station. Nicholas L. Johnson, chief scientist for orbital debris at NASA, said to the BBC that "there is actually debris from this event which we believe is going through space station altitude already." However, he believed that "the risk of collision with the speeding fragments is very small," and said that they would "dodge them if they have to." In fact, the International Space Station controllers have often had to adjust its orbit to avoid speeding debris, which can move so fast that even very small pieces can pack a destructive wallop.

Whether the debris will hit and damage other satellites is still unknown, but politicians in Washington called for universal space traffic control. Members of Congress blame the lack of space traffic control for the crash and specifically mentioned in a statement

see *Universal*, page 13



WWW.MSNBC.COM

Millions of pieces of debris orbit the Earth every day.

PROFESSOR PROFILE

Bruce Wegter, Sciences Instrumentation Technician

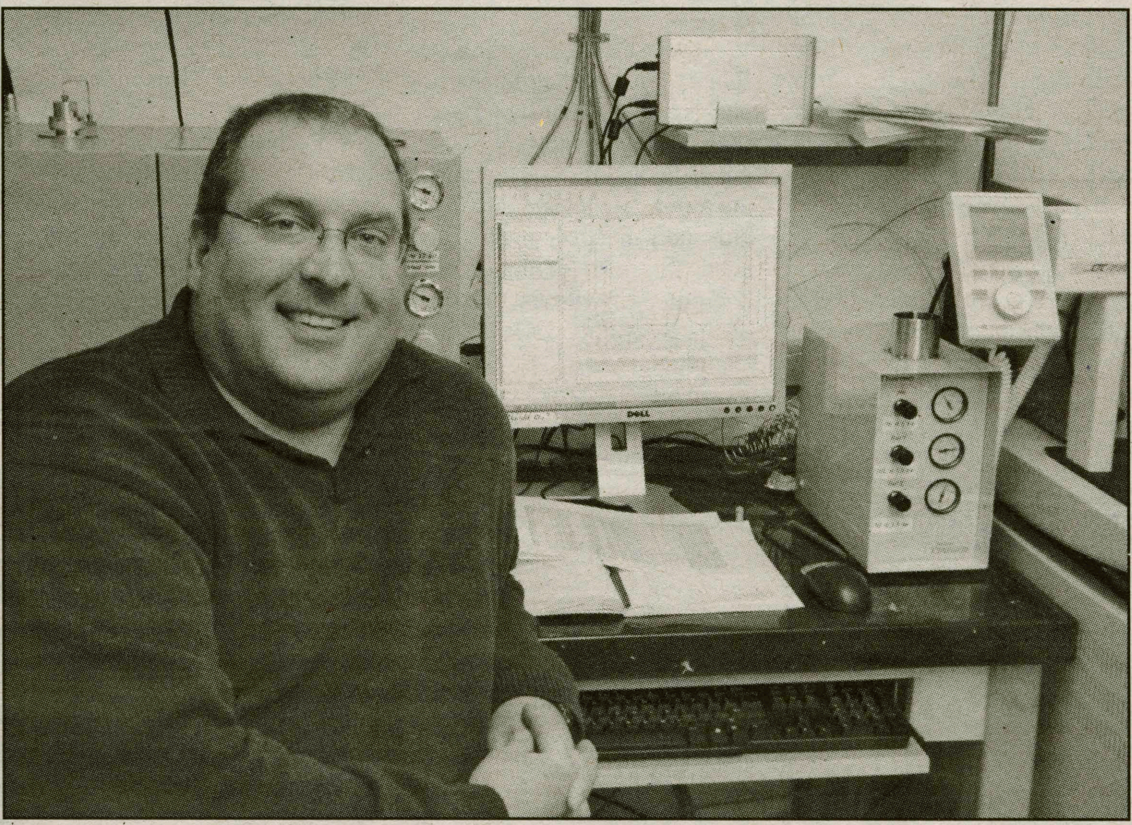


PHOTO COURTESY OF BRUCE WEGTER

Elijah LaChance: If you were to describe yourself in three words, what would they be?

BW: Sense of humor.

EL: What areas of chemistry interest you most and why?

BW: Astronomy. Growing up during the Apollo moon landing era, space and the stars have always interested me.

EL: How did you eventually choose to join academia for a living?

BW: It chose me. I was working as the Laboratory Manager for a local manufacturing company when it was sold to another company. I was ready for a change and wanted to get back into science. I was tired of attending meetings and pushing paper all day. This opening in Instrumentation at Hamilton came at the right time for me.

EL: Why Hamilton?

BW: Why not Hamilton? This is a wonderful college with lots of character. I used to come here years ago to watch hockey games when there was the old diesel tractor Zamboni at the Sage Rink. I just loved it.

EL: What is your funniest/most entertaining childhood memory?

BW: I was probably six or seven years old, using my dad's golf clubs (without permission) in the backyard. My sister came outside and informed me she was going to tell on me for using dad's clubs. Well, a bullseye suddenly appeared on her forehead (at least it did in my mind!). Long story short, I swung the club and beaned her right between the eyes with the ball. Now I had trouble hitting the side of the house with a golf ball, but I hit her right where I aimed! She fell, had a golf ball size lump between her eyes, and I did not use dad's clubs anymore. My sister's kids still love to hear that story.

EL: Do you have any habits students might notice? If so, what are they?

BW: I like to chew gum.

EL: What is your favorite band/singer, your favorite ice cream flavor, your favorite book, and your favorite home-cooked meal?

BW: Band: Rush. Singer: Peter Gabriel. Not a big ice cream fan, but when I do want some it would usually be chocolate chip or heavenly hash. Favorite book: fiction would be Tom Clancy's *Red Storm Rising*; non-fiction would be Jack Henke's (a Hamilton alumnus) *From the Beach to Brewerton: Stories of Oneida Lake*, and the home-cooked meal is a steak with mushrooms and onions and a baked potato.

EL: What would you say is your teaching style, and what can students expect who are in your classes?

BW: I'm not an instructor or professor so I do not teach any classes. However, I have always liked to use a hands-on approach to teaching and to let the students figure things out by guiding them through the learning process and letting them make, identify and correct their own mistakes.

EL: What is the craziest thing you did in college?

BW: Hitchhiking from University of Buffalo to home (Rome) on Christmas Eve in a blizzard. I had no money for a bus and all my friends had finished their finals earlier in the week and had already left for break. Also, going to spring break in Daytona Beach with three of my housemates on the spur of the moment.

EL: Other than the Science Center, where can students expect to see you on campus?

BW: So far, I'm pretty much always in the Science Center. Hopefully you will see me on the golf course when the weather gets nicer.

EL: What are your current research interests, and how might students be working with you on them?

BW: I am working with a few Geoscience students on their research projects using the Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometer (IRMS) in the Geoscience Laboratory. I also plan on assisting Gene Domack and some of his students in collecting samples from Oneida Lake using Hamilton's research vessel the *Continental Drifter.*

EL: What have you enjoyed most about being a member of the Hamilton community?

BW: I really enjoy the people (faculty, administration, staff, and students) I have had the pleasure of meeting and interacting with.

EL: What are some of your interests outside Hamilton?

BW: Motorcycle riding and touring, golfing and the beach.

Job-U Resource Helps Balance Poor Job Outlook

by Saad Chaudhry '12
Science & Technology Editor

According to National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE), the undergraduate college class of 2009 will see little movement in starting salary from employers compared to the class of 2008. Of course, everyone knows how to direct blame on the economic downturn that the United States and much of the world is in, but not everyone knows how to utilize resources such as the premier site, Job-U.com.

Randon Johnson, a current junior from the Xavier University of Louisiana, has recently started a website called Job-U which "offers college advice for students by students, it has a job board implemented on the site and we also talk about college issues, products pertaining to college life, and etc."

In a time when employment levels have gone down while the number of people seeking jobs remains static it is clear that a static base salary to new graduates is a critical sign of a ruined economy. The overall average salary offer made to 2009 bachelor's degree graduates is $49,353, which is nearly identical to the 2008 average of $49,300. The Winter 2009 issue of NACE's Salary Survey clearly indicates that the stagnation does not change even when looking at the variety of fields in different college disciplines.

"In many cases, salary offers for individual majors that were on the rise just a year ago are now hovering at or near last year's levels," said Marilyn Mackes, NACE executive director. This potentially indicates that the worse has yet to happen.

Surprisingly, graduates in the computer science disciplines saw a depression, despite many reports indicating companies focused on computer science, such as Google, as the best places to work in during these economically pressured times; their average salary offer fell 1.4 percent from $56,920 to $56,128. Last year, their average offer was 7.9 percent greater than the preceding year. Nonetheless, employers state computer science graduates are in demand. Consequently, the drop may suggest that current economic conditions make it difficult for employers to raise offers.

Due to relatively low supply of engineers, particularly in the public sector, engineering graduates generally are in demand regardless of the economy. However, this report demonstrates that even these in-demand graduates are not immune to the current economic climate. As a group, engineering grads saw their average starting salary offer rise 2.2 percent to $58,525. But last year at this time, this group earned a 5.7 percent increase.

Despite the demand, most of the engineering disciplines earned much lower increases than those they earned a year ago. For example, the offer to chemical engineering grads rose 2.7 percent to $65,466. Last year at this time, their average offer was up more than 6 percent from 2007. Civil engineering graduates also posted a 2.7 percent increase (compared to 4.8 percent last year); their average offer rose to $50,785. Average salary offers to electrical engineering graduates increased by 1.6 percent (compared to 3.5 percent last year) to $57,404. Again, it is important to note that despite the moderate increase, electrical engineering grads are in demand, according to respondents to NACE Job Outlook 2009. Mechanical engineering graduates saw one of the higher increases; their average salary offer rose 3.9 percent to $58,648.

Job-U clearly has a critical role to play during these difficult times for college graduates who are barely seeing a static equivalence in salaries from the preceding years. According to their website, "The main purpose for Job-U is to ensure that all college students and graduates are able to share and learn about career preparation, new job listings and anything career oriented." To learn more about how Job-U can help your future, go to their website now at www.job-U.com .

WWW.JOB-U.COM

During these tough economic times, students can depend on resources such as the student-created website Job-U for guidance on employment in various fields of work.

Universal Traffic Control Needed?

*from **Hamiltonians**, page 12*

"when it comes to privately operated satellites, there is no Federal Aviation Administration." The Department of Defense is responsible for tracking the orbital information, but they charge private companies to track their satellites. It's left to the individual satellite operators to reach agreements to get service, and most of them do not in order to avoid the cost. It might be one of the causes for the recent crash, since the Iridium satellite was operated by a private corporation based in Bethesda, MD.

Of the 6,000 or so satellites sent into orbit since 1957, about 3,000 remain in operation. Space debris experts say the chances of such collisions have been rising. Litter in orbit has increased in recent years, in part because of the deliberate break-up of old satellites. The problem is so bad that orbital debris is now the biggest threat to space shuttles, surpassing the dangers of lift-off and return to Earth. NASA is in regular touch with the Space Surveillance Network to help keep the International Space Station a safe distance from any encroaching objects. NASA is now following the debris paths from the impact, and hopes most of the debris will fall to Earth and burn up in the atmosphere.

"SOMETIMES I THINK THE SUREST SIGN THAT INTELLIGENT LIFE EXISTS ELSEWHERE IN THE UNIVERSE IS THAT NONE OF IT HAS TRIED TO CONTACT US."

~ CALVIN
FROM "CALVIN AND HOBBES"

RecycleMania 2009 Results Through Week 5 (Feb. 21)

Grand Champion:

New York Schools	*Cumul. Recycling Rate (%)*
1. Onondoga Community	55.28%
2. Wells College	41.01%
3. SUNY Binghamton	39.34%
4. RIT	36.06%
5. Ithaca College	32.25%
6. University of Rochester	28.55%
7. Vassar College	27.39%
8. New York University	25.00%
9. Hobart William Smith	22.86%
10. Saint John's University	22.71%
11. Bard College	21.53%
12. SUNY Albany	20.29%
13. Stony Brook University	17.50%
14. SUNY Buffalo	17.21%
15. Hamilton College	*15.73%*
16. Union College	0.57%

Hamilton Week 6: 18.32%

National Grand Champion Rank: #165/198

Per Capita Classic:

New York Schools	*Cumul. Recyclables (lbs./person)*
1. RIT	15.98
2. Vassar College	11.01
3. Hobart William Smith	8.06
4. Hamilton College	*7.88*
5. University of Rochester	7.83
6. SUNY Binghamton	7.78
7. Onondaga Community	7.40
8. Stony Brook University	6.36
9. Bard College	5.09
10. Ithaca College	4.27
11. SUNY Albany	4.17
12. Wells College	3.68
13. SUNY Fredonia	3.54
14. New York University	2.72
15. SUNY Buffalo	2.66
16. Saint John's University	2.57
17. Yeshiva University	1.66
18. Paul Smiths College	1.57
19. Union College	0.22

Results from recyclemania.org and Recycling Task Force

Bachelor & Bachelorette of the Week

Kaillie Briscoe '09

PHOTO COURTESY OF KAILLIE BRISCOE '09

Hometown: *Orangeville, Ontario, CANADA*
Major: Psychology
Turn On? *Class of 2012, Meaty, Laxtastic, Wears more pink than I do, Bro-lific, member of a frat (preferably AD). Substance addiction a plus, but not necessary.*
Turn Off? *Anyone who is nice to me, nice boys finish last*
What is your worst habit?
- I may care a little more about spots that an average girl. That and I have a mouth like a trucker.
If you were a Hamilton College dorm which would you be and why?
- South. The Saturday night culture really captures the essence of Kaillie Briscoe.
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians which would you pick and why?
- Avril Lavigne and Mikey Powell - Canadian and the sweetest (thank you, Villian's Trust).
If you were God, what would be the first thing you'd do to the world?
- Expand Canada all the way to Mexico.
If you had to create a new points system what would be the #1 offense?
- Cruel and unusual punishment to all the annoying broads that scream and cry outside my window on Friday nights. You're going home alone honey, have some self respect and take it like a champ.
What advertising slogan best describes your life?
- "I am Canadian"
If you could create a holiday what/when would it be?
- No holiday tops Boxing Day, the most proud and noble day of the year.
What movie genre best describes you?
- Romantic comedy. It's always complicated, but we always get to laugh. Thank you Brett Bretterson.
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you?
- "Did that just come out your nose?" or "Can I pee in your butthole?"
If you were a Hamilton major which would you be and why?
- Lax. Cause I'm the lax troll. Duh.
If you won an award at an awards show what would it be for?
- Best housewife.
If you could have any super power what would it be and why?
- I'd be as strong as Divij Mathew so I could pay on the football team and spend more time with Coach Adey.
If you were any Hamilton social space what would it be and why?
- Martin's way bridge. Where else would a lax troll live?
If you could get rid of one group on campus what would it be and why?
- Capoiera.
If you could join one group on campus what would it be and why?
*- ATX. Who doesn't secretly wish they were as sweet as all terrain? *hair flip**
What would you say is your most attractive quality?
- Biceps and my "beady little eyes and flapping heads so full of lies." Oh, and my lax tat too.
If you could trade jobs with anyone at Hamilton for a day what would it be?
- Dennis Murphy - equipment room guru.
What thing at Hamilton would you give a thumbs up?
- Robert "Blake" Hollinger XVII: head TDX and lax bro.
What thing at Hamilton would you give a thumbs down?
- Patricia "KB if you drop another F-Bomb we're running" Kloidt
Who would you say is your campus crush?
-Coach Holdridge, Coach Barnard, Coach Byrnes and Coach Adey (in no particular order).
Who would you say is your faculty crush?
- Professor Oakes

Rouvan Mahmud '11

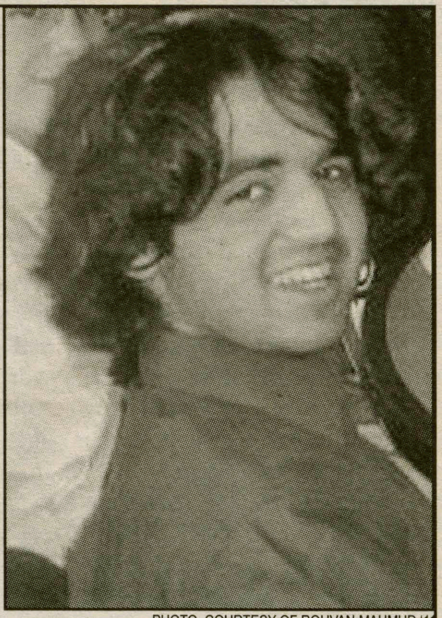


PHOTO COURTESY OF ROUVAN MAHMUD '11

Hometown: *Karachi, Pakistan*
Major: *Theatre/Philosophy*
Turn On? *Wit, intelligence, Hanah Fazio impressions, grace.*
Turn Off? *Pretentiousness narrow mindedness, fakeness.*
What is your worst habit?
- Convincing Jared, Sean and Pete hat we need pizza at 2 a.m.
If you were a Hamilton College dorm which would you be and why?
- Milbank: less sophisticated than Babbitt, but more enthusiastic.
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians which would you pick and why?
- Roger Waters and Keith Richards.
If you were God, what would be the first thing you'd do to the world?
- Remove unnecessary freezing temperatures. Think about it- it just makes no sense. If there was a sre prof of his non-existence it has to be this.
What's the first world you just though of?
- Lost
If you had to create a new points system what would be the #1 offense?
- Charging people for putting music on the jukebox at the diner.
What advertising slogan best describes your life?
- "Happiness is a cigar called Hamlet."
If you could create a holiday what/when would it be?
- Calvin and Hobbes day on March 19..
What movie genre best describes you?
- Multilink-surrealist-dark-dramedy
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you?
- "My guys over there bet that I couldn't start a conversation with you. Want to have some drinks with their money?"
If you were a Hamilton major which would you be and why?
- Psychology. Without crazy parents there'd be no psychology
If you won an award at an awards show what would it be for?
- Golden Raspberry.
If you could have any super power what would it be and why?
- Time Traveling. So I can go back into time and make the same decisions over and over and over again.
If you were any Hamilton social space what would it be and why?
- KJ Aud-Holds F.I.L.M., SK Films, Yodapez, The Darkside, & Mark Cryer trying to play the same movie unsuccessfully for four hours.
If you could get rid of one group on campus what would it be?
- Social Justice Inititative - They worsen all the causes they fight for.
If you could join one group on campus what would it be?
- Daily Bull *writers because irony is losing itself on me.*
What would you say is your most attractive quality?
- Humor? Passion?
If you could break one rule at Hamilton for a day and get away with it which would you choose?
- Getting into Commons at 2 a.m. and stealing bagels so I wouldn't have to pay $15 ordering pizza.
What accessory best defines you?
- Phone (pink).
What thing at Hamilton would you give a thumbs up to?
- Cinnamon Toast Crunch.
What thing at Hamilton would you give a thumbs down to?
- Thumbs Up/Thumbs Down.
Who would you say is your campus crush?
- David Cornelius Moroney.
Who would you say is your faculty crush?
- Michelle LaMasurier.

Land that Internship (and Don't Suck at It)

by Jennifer Vano '09
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Every year, MTV Networks receives 15,000 internship applications from students eager to get their feet wet in an entertainment pool that someday may lead to full-time employment; only seven percent of these applicants are offered a position. Who are these lucky thousand? And which interns will be remembered a month, six months or a year after they complete their three-month stint?

Follow these rules, amd you'll be closer to landing your dream entertainment internship—and not sucking at it.

1. Do Your Research

Thousands of companies accept interns, but not all of these companies will be right for you. Make a list of dream companies: the companies you can easily identify as both matching your interests and being at the forefront of their fields. If you cannot identify your ideal companies, you need to do some soul-searching. Which of your classes is most interesting to you? Do you enjoy writing, producing, number-crunching? Would you rather spend your money on a new CD, video game, movie or concert or theater tickets? If you don't know who you are or what your skill-set is, an employer at a competitive company will not consider you a potential asset. The company invests its time and money in its interns. You must assure your employer that you are a sound and necessary investment.

Most major companies have career information posted on their websites, and entertainmentcareers.net, 4entertainmentjobs.com, and internzoo.com post relatively ample lists of job openings. And, of course, do not underestimate the Career Center! Counselors can provide research and networking tips, alert you to opportunities and put you in contact with alumni who work in your field of interest.

2. Look Good on Paper

Most internship applications require both a cover letter and a resume. No matter how passionate or talented you are, no employer is going to interview you if your cover letter is obviously generic (i.e. *To whom it may concern: Your company impresses me because it does very great things*), or if your resume is poorly edited (i.e. *Deer surr or madmen:*).

According to Entertainment professionals, careful editing is key: "Make sure you proofread... thoroughly, and be honest but positive about whatever experience you do have. Keep it short and sweet... No college kid should have a two-page resume. That just makes it clear that you don't know how to edit yourself." *-Katrin Van Dam, Sr. Direector, Project Management, Nickelodeon Creative Resources*

"I receive so many resumes, [so] I can afford to throw away the ones riddled with errors. Resumes with spelling errors go in the garbage. A resume is a reflection of the individual and...errors are a really bad start."*-Kimberly Easa, Character Art Coordinator, Nickelodeon Creative Resources*

"I will throw away any cover letter with typos or improper English. It saddens me that students today write as though they are texting...I have actually responded to applicants informing them of their poor writing skills, just a tip to help them out in the future."*-Robal Johnson, A&R*

"I really don't want to see your experience working at Burger King or other places of similar nature, [but] if one has to include those try to highlight special projects, or that you were a manager, etc."

-Eric Mclellan, A&R Assistant/Executive Assistant to Seymour Stein, SIRE/Warner Bros. Records

3. Look Good in Person

If you've made it beyond the review-the-resume stage, you are in a great position. Generally, employers want to conduct either a phone or in-person interview before they make hiring decisions. All you have to do is ensure that you impress your potential employer. Confidence (but not cockiness), knowledge (but not pretentiousness) and energy (but not a lack of control) will communicate to your interviewer that you are mature, professional and willing to learn—and that you actually want the position. Employees will know if you consider an interview a test-run interview, if your parents told you to apply or if you found the internship on craigslist an hour before. Know something about yourself and the company before you sit across from the person who might be your next boss.

The experts will notice when you aren't prepared or don't care. "In an interview…the single most unappealing quality would be a lack of enthusiasm/interest. It also drives me crazy when you just get one-word or very brief answers to your questions…[and] when the candidate doesn't have any questions for me. More than any particular skill set, I'm going to be looking for someone who is engaged and energetic, and who has good judgment. Beyond that, relevant experience is the icing on the cake.

Come prepared with a list of questions…be actively engaged in the interview process....People love to talk about themselves, so ask your interviewer questions about their own career path. Be sure to ask them what makes someone a successful intern in their department! You're interviewing them as well, and you want to make sure that you choose an internship where the people are going to be thinking about this as a two-way street.

[And] watch out for the way you're dressed. Even in a relatively informal company (like this one), you don't want to show up for an interview (or for the internship itself, for that matter) dressed too casually, or too revealingly (take note, women!)." *-Van Dam*

"Interviews are clutch for me [when] choosing an intern. I want someone who's [going to] be able to help yet be able to hang and have a good time.

Interview[ing] is a skill you need to master. I used to try to wing it and play off the person interviewing when I interviewed. That is a bad idea! You need to prepare."*-Christopher Shields, Video Promotion Assistant, Warner Bros. Records*

Even if you nail the interview, be wary about what you reveal about yourself over the internet. People in the entertainment world are smart, savvy and, if necessary, a little sneaky. They *will* search for you online, and what they find may make or break your chance for employment. "One applicant that was in my top three resumes had a picture of himself on Facebook, as his default photo, passed out on a couch with drawing all over his face....If [kids] have photos like that for all the world to see, I will never hire them to represent my company. That's just stupid."*-Johnson*

4. Don't Be the Intern your Boss Regrets

If you've landed the position, make the most of it. Too many interns assume that simply slapping a company name and the word intern on a resume will impress future full-time employers. Not true. Not every student does an internship, but thousands of students do, and employers will remember exceptional interns. Every internship—even in entertainment—has its fair share of mundane work: filing, answering phones, getting coffee. Yes, you will have to get someone's coffee at some point, but if you do it willingly, that person is likely to trust you with more important tasks (and invite you to share a cup of coffee with her).

The biggest mistake newbie interns make is exposing their boredom. As is the case with most companies, entertainment companies have stressful and calm days. Most employers will do their best to assign tasks to you that will maintain your interest and teach you about the company. But, remember: your bosses are busy, too, and you might find yourself staring at a computer screen and waiting for your next assignment. Yes, the temptation to Facebook stalk or gmail chat is almost unbearable; I understand. However, your boss, no matter how laid-back she may seem, will notice that you are wasting her time and

see *Interning*, page 16

To Africa and Back

by Corinne Bancroft '10
Arts & Entertainment Contributor

The College's talent came out of the woodwork Saturday night to bring down the barn for the Black Latino Student Union's (BLSU) celebratory performance of "To Africa and Back." As one of the culminating events of Black History Month, the performance chronicled the history and culture of those of African descent in the U.S. Each section (Slavery, Emancipation, Harlem Renaissance, Civil Rights, Hip Hop and Present Day) opened with a scene that located the audience in the specific historic period and emphasized the connection among generations and the responsibility of each person to pass on this history. The dramatic scenes featured performances by Luvuyo Mandela '09, Brianna Felton '09, Christian Baxter '10, Kadahj Bennett '12, Anthony Mathieu '12 and Byron Johnson '09.

A fashion show of African garments kicked off the performance. Students used poetry to explain both the complexity of this history and their role in it through powerful recitations (Vako Tamaklo '09, Alex Dotson '11, Ysmerlyn Baez '11 and Leide Cabral '10), spoken word (Hannah Roth '11, Laura Lee Smith '11 and Denise Ghartey '12). Sonya Garcia '11 paid tribute to the Latino influence in Niggerican Blues by Willie Perdomo, and Lamarana Diallo '12 stole the show with her rendition of "And Still I Rise." The emancipation theme featured performance by the Gospel Choir and Illeana Becerra '11, Bennett, and Randall Mason '11 thrilled the audience with their solo musical selections. Dynamic performances by Heat and the Finesse Step Team energized the audience during the Hip Hop section. Dance duets by Selby McRae '11 with Allison McLaughlin '11 and Randall Mason '11 with Asia Agers '09 offered graceful contrast during the Slavery Theme and Hip Hop, respectively.

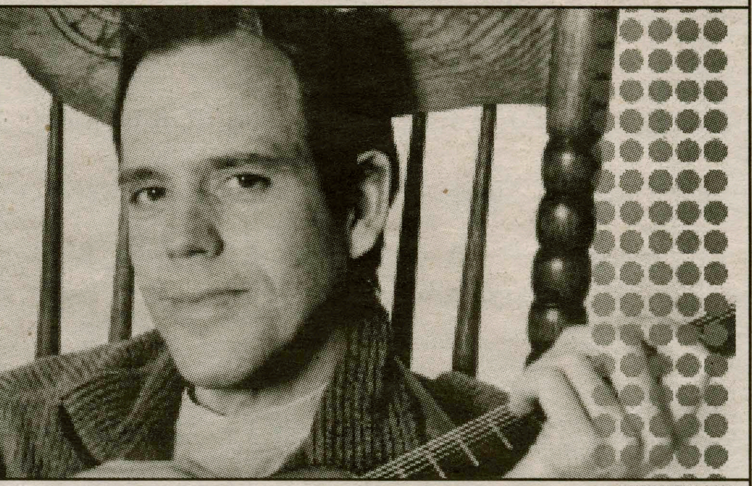
"Although we did have competition with many events," BLSU cultural chair Garcia says, "the turnout was great," and audience members filled the tables, doorways and balcony. The celebration and education did not stop with the performances, however. During intermission the BLSU executive board invited audience members to view a post card exhibit asking "Does race still matter?" and an exhibit on lynching that included a forum for people to write their thoughts. Spectator Robin Joseph '09 praised the event. "It was obvious that the BLSU e-board had put a lot of time and effort in to organizing the performances. I especially appreciated the original pieces that students shared. The event was equally entertaining and educational."

Don't worry if you missed it. Garcia says, "Next year's [event] will be bigger and better!"

Wilcox Sings Folk

by Hayley Rein '09
Arts & Entertainment Contributor

On Feb. 26, the Events Barn became the stage for singer-songwriter David Wilcox as part of CAB's Acoustic Coffeehouse Series. Born in Mentor, OH, Wilcox



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David Wilcox strummed soothing music on his guitar.

attended Antioch College where he first began playing guitar. A seasoned musician who has been touring for more than two decades, Wilcox seemed relaxed and at home on the stage as he displayed his vocal and guitar talents.

"What I want to sing about is what I want to become," Wilcox explained to the audience. With a voice reminiscent of James Taylor's, Wilcox earnestly performed songs detailing past relationships and hope for the future. His music clearly has its roots in the folk music of Taylor and similar artists, and at times the songs sounded similar to one another. However, Wilcox also uses unusual tunings and draws inspiration from other genres and cultures to create his unique sound. "Whisper of the Wheels," a blues-inspired song that ended with a few lines of the Stevie Wonder song "Superstition," and "Native Tongue," a haunting tune that began with an Aramaic prayer, were some of the more diverse pieces that he performed—and two of the highlights of the performance.

The crowd in the Events Barn was small at first, yet enthusiastic. Audience members, including equal parts Hamilton students and those closer to Wilcox's age, enjoyed his relaxing and optimistic performance after a busy week on the Hill.

Wilcox's new album, *Open Hand*, will be released in April 2009.

Theatre Department's Newest Addition

by Lexi Nisita '12
Arts & Entertainment Contributor

Hamilton Alumnus Dustin Helmer '99 returned to his alma mater this spring as a visiting professor of theatre, bringing with him an MFA in theater from Columbia University as well as wide experience in acting, writing and directing as Artistic Co-Director of his theater company, Pig Brooch. Helmer started to get involved with theater at Hamilton, although at the time his interests were divided between theater and music. In fact, this is not Helmer's first time returning to Hamilton after time spent away. After his sophomore year, Helmer left college to pursue a music career in "rock, funk and party music" with his band. This foray was, however, short-lived: his bandmates were, unlike him, "just a bunch of kids who cared more about making money than music. I thought we would be playing a lot more." He soon returned for his junior year at Hamilton, at which point he concentrated solely on theater. "After my leave of absence," Helmer relates, "I had nothing but theater classes and wasn't distracted."

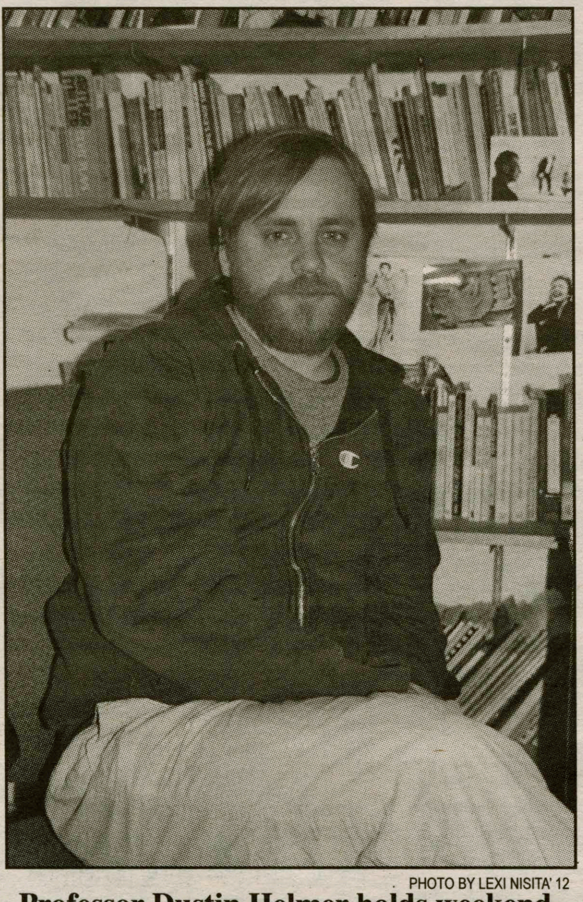


PHOTO BY LEXI NISITA '12
Professor Dustin Helmer holds weekend theater workshops.

After graduation, Helmer traveled and settled in a "ghetto of San Francisco...the police raided the crackhouse across the street with M-16s, and we saw a man get shot in the head across the street from our apartment." Despite the possible setbacks of living in such an environment, Helmer continued to act in San Francisco and eventually decided to go to graduate school. Shortly afterwards, he joined Pig Brooch, a theater company founded by other Hamilton Alumni. Together they wrote and acted in what he describes as as his favorite piece from his own repertoire, a "silent film for the stage" entitled *Love is in the Air.*

During his professorship at Hamilton, Helmer continues to work with NYC-based Pig Brooch, which visits Hamilton regularly for weekend actors' workshops. The workshops are two-hour sessions divided into two sections designed to immerse actors in specific aspects of their craft. The first section is called "continuous exercise" which Helmer explained is "a solid hour of physical movement training based in biomechanics and Comedia del'Arte," and the second is "viewpoints...a way of understanding the language of theater similar to improv with a specific focus that breaks down the different aspects of theater." Helmer describes both the workshops and his classes as being "a training-intensive collaborative process. It's not a theoretical experience, it's more about doing—acting is doing."

Helmer remains unsure as to whether or not he will return again next spring as a visiting professor, but he intends to pursue a career in teaching theater either way. "My main goal for my students is to broaden people's understanding of themselves and their craft," he said, adding that his greatest joy in teaching comes in seeing "people make discoveries about themselves and about what makes theater unique. The most important thing for an actor is to know himself, know everything about himself and how he operates."

ACADEMIC MAJOR HOROSCOPES

by Steve Allinger '09
Staff Seer

Aries: Your love of dead people has never led to anything but shame and embarrassment for your family. Become a history major and put your mind to good use.

Taurus: Many people consider communications to be a joke major for idiots. You laugh at that idea almost as hard as you laugh when someone jingles keys in front of your face.

Gemini: Ever find yourself interested in members of the same sex? Comparative literature is the major for you!

Cancer: Archeology is the study of things long gone...like your ambition to make money as an adult.

Leo: It takes a special mind to be a math major, not a special bus. Sorry, try computer science.

Virgo: Have you already conquered land? Are you bored of squirrels, birthday hats, apricots and other things constricted to the boring air-filled earth? Marine biology will show you a world where even the bravest apricots never go.

Libra: Neuroscience. The name alone makes this one of the most impressive majors. If you tackle this lofty science, you will no longer have to pay taxes and social science majors are forbidden to look you in the eye.

Scorpio: If you are a dirty hippie, try making up your own major. All of earth's children at Tom's Natural Foods will be very impressed with you.

Sagittarius: Your creativity would make you an excellent candidate for the creative writing major. Because you're creative.

Capricorn: Maybe your love of gneiss cleavage and vodka on the rocks has been leading you towards a career in the Geo Sciences. HAHAHA I made geology jokes!

Aquarius: Instead of double majoring, you could always consider minoring in assholery and major in being an insufferable know-it-all.

Pisces: If you are considering a major in theatre, consider how many fine actors the department has turned out. Who knows, you could be the next depressed guy from *The Office,* or maybe even the Al Ham pig.

Interning

from ***Land that****, page 15*

the amazing opportunity thousands of other students would have given anything to have. Reorganize a closet or e-mail archive, log onto the company's website and research its history, compile a list of the company's current properties or artists and employee contact information, get your boss her coffee before she asks you for it.

Be careful: if you think you're better than the job, your boss won't want you around anymore, but if you make yourself indispensible she'll never want to let you go. "A lot of kids coming out of college have a sense of entitlement, like they should be able to walk into a highly-paid position where they don't have to work very hard. While I definitely want a super-smart candidate, I would take one who worked really hard over one who was brilliant but lazy. Make it clear that you're willing to do scut work, if that means you also get a great learning opportunity.

If you find yourself with nothing to do, ask your supervisor if there's any project that they've been putting off that you can help with. Even basic, menial jobs are an opportunity to learn something, and you will totally ingratiate yourself to your supervisor if you help out."

-Katrin Van Dam

"Interns that follow up, stay on top of things...are detail-oriented and show they care about the internship opportunity [are memorable]." *-Kimberly Easa*

"My [best intern] was aggressive and not afraid to work and learn. She showed up every day in a professional manner and stayed until the workday was complete. She had an excellent work ethic, and...she was a reliable person who I could trust... I felt confident that any assignments or tasks given to her would be carried out with perfection...and there was never a time I needed "babysit" her. I felt as if I was working alongside a colleague and not an intern."

-Eric McLellan

5. Take Chances, Be Cool and Have Patience

Take risks. Ask questions, introduce yourself to executives, propose ideas. As long as you are tactful, employers will be impressed by your confidence and eagerness, and they will reward you by assigning you special projects, writing recommendations or helping you find full-time positions later.

If you ask professionals, they'll tell you that even though being proactive is scary, you've got to do it to be successful. "Don't be afraid to cold-call and network... this business is based on relationships... Reach out to people, and ask questions."

"Learn as much as you can. Read about the industry, know about the bands you're working with. Help and do anything...You need to win everyone's trust...and show you can hang. I always thought if you won't do it, someone else will, and I wasnt gonna let anyone beat me."

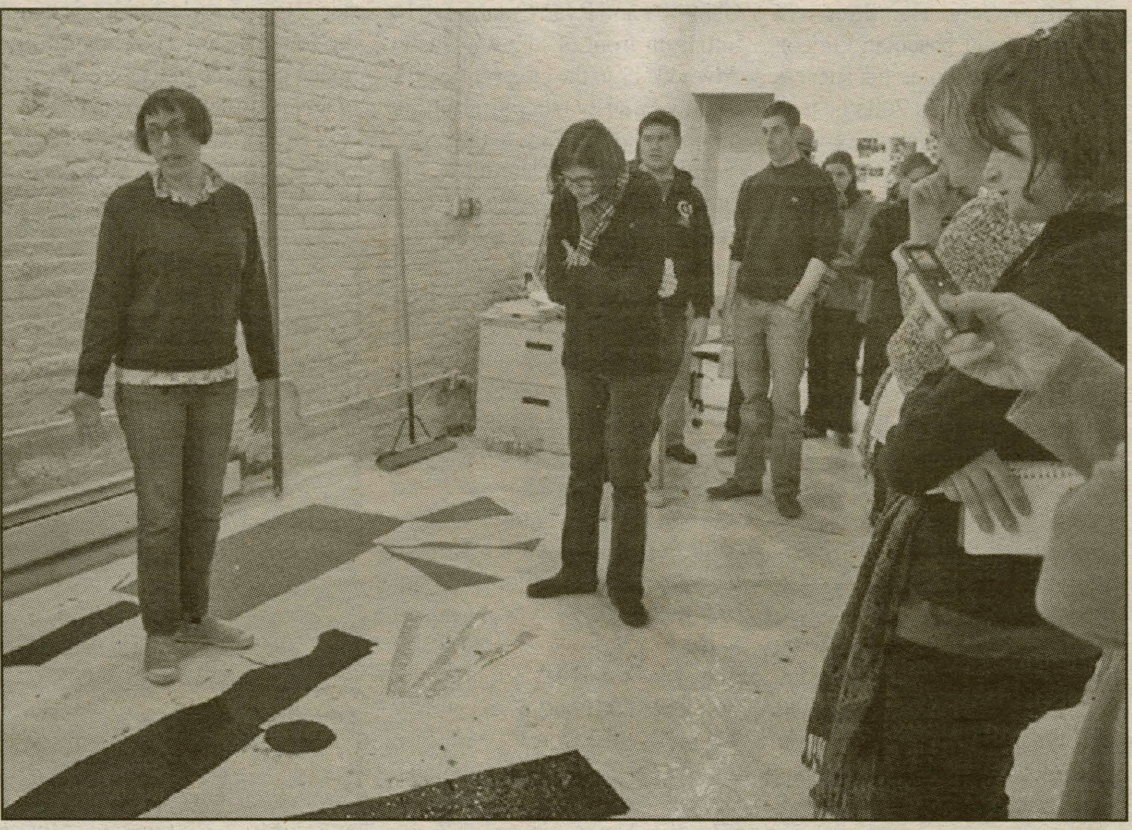
-Christopher Shields

Art Students Travel to NYC for the Weekend

by Zachary Pintchik '12
Arts & Entertainment Contributor

On Feb. 19-21, a group of senior art students went to New York City with Associate Professor of Art Katharine Kuharic to visit the studios of five contemporary artists. The trip, funded by a program started by alumnus Dan Dietrich, is the spring component of the senior art concentrator experience. For the fall component, the Art Department invited artists Sarah Oppenheimer, David Hilliard, Catharine Murphy and Tom Shepherd to present lectures about their art and perform individual critiques on students' work.

Among the five artists visited were Polly Apfelbaum, Kurt Kauper, Carolee Schneeman, Justine Kurland and Julie Heffernan. Apfelbaum's work finds its identity as a mix of painting, sculpture and installation in what she calls "fallen paintings." Her most well known works consist of these installation pieces: large, organic paintings with a distinct floral motif that make use of psychedelic color schemes and create a deft interplay between the movement of the painting and the white space of the gallery. Kurt Kauper's most famous works include nude paintings of movie star Cary Grant, former Boston Bruins center Derek Sanderson (as well as a handful of Kauper's other favorite hockey players) and his "Diva Fiction" series, which consists of portraits of artificial people. One of Kauper's more recent works, a portrait of President Barack Obama titled "Beatific Barack," was shown during the visit to the studio.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Art students visit Polly Apfelbaum's studio with their professor, Katharine Kuharic.

Julie Heffernan's paintings combine a variety of styles and themes. At first glance the paintings, all titled as self-portraits, could look as if they came straight out of the Renaissance, but the viewer soon realizes that the images in her works are far more fantastical, lending to the varied themes she tackles in her work, including motherhood, religion and the psychology of the human being.

Justine Kurland is a photographer, and her work most commonly focuses on teenage girls and young mothers in wilderness landscapes. She blends the realism inherent in a photograph with the fantastic quality of the natural world in which the image is framed. Lending to the fantasy of the images is the almost spritely nature in which the young women are portrayed; the combination makes for an image that is reminiscent of an illustration from a fairy tale.

The final artist the group visited, Carolee Schneeman, has worked in a variety of media, including painting, photography, sculpture and performance art. Her work is known for challenging visual traditions, exploring the pleasure of suppressive taboos and the relation of the body of the artist in the art it creates.

At each studio, the artists gave an introduction to their work, and then the floor was opened for students' questions. When asked about the trip, Professor Kuharic said, "This trip was the capstone experience of our students education at Hamilton and gave our students and college unprecedented access to the larger art community. Hamilton is now doing what few graduate art programs are capable of... giving our students one-on-one access to some of the most important working artists. I fully believe that Hamilton's art department will soon be known as one of the most ambitious programs in a liberal arts college in the country."

One Lettuce, Two Lettuce: How Many Lettuce Heads?

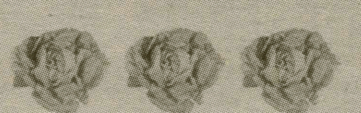
by Joshua Hicks '09
Arts & Entertainment Writer

The Princess And The Pirate

As a film critic, there are far too many films to keep up with, and while doing reviews, it's even more difficult to stay well-rounded. I don't know if there is a patron saint for missing films, but whoever she may be--I thank her for not letting this classic comedy slip through the cracks of my mind. The 1944 film *The Princess and the Pirate* is one of the wildest adventures I've ever seen. Bob Hope stars as "Sylvester the Great" who, once aboard an attacked ship, helps a beautiful damsel in distress, who just so happens to be a wealthy princess. Once the actor-turned-hero lands ashore with princess Margaret (Virginia Mayo), the fight to stay alive is more humorous than anything. If you enjoy pirate movies or good old fashioned romance--this is without a doubt the film for you.

I gave this film four out of five Lettuce Heads for the simple reason that I was disappointed only that the hero does not get the girl in the end--but if you wanna know who does, you should see it!

The Messenger



I'm not entirely sure why I'm so overly enthusiastic over Luc Besson's 1999 film *The Messenger.* I hadn't seen the film since I was in high school, and I remembered enjoying it very much, so I decided to give it a go this past weekend. I will say this much: as a Religious Studies major who is enrolled in "Women Filmmakers" this semester, I feel the film caught me at an interesting point in my life. The film constantly asks the question, "If God..." regarding whether or not the French heroine, Joan of Arc (Milla Jovovich), was in fact sent by God. Her final conscience, played by Dustin Hoffman, forces Joan to rethink her life and how much of her calling was personal or divine. This is a film about destiny, and it is certainly a film about faith. The portrayal of Joan is certainly questionable and sometimes unsettling (as she can flip from inspiring to schizophrenic). Her tragic death left me extremely sympathetic, but overall Jovovich's acting (and childish screaming) got old very quickly. This film gets three out of five Lettuce Heads (an all-time low). I would recommend this film for whatever scholarly purposes one may have, but as far as entertainment goes, you can definitely find better films about blood, guts and all-inspiring tragic heroes.

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Milla Jovovich portrays passionate heroine Joan of Arc.

Students Connect with Africa

by Sarah Bingham '12
Arts & Entertainment Contributor

The Mr. Hamilton pageant was a definite success, but what do we actually know about the club that is responsible for it?

As it turns out, One Heart with Africa isn't actually a club at Hamilton; at least, not yet. After one of the founders of the parent non-governmental organization visited campus and spoke about its endeavors, several students realized that this was a worthy cause. They subsequently started a group dedicated to raising money for the larger One Heart organization.

The goal of One Heart with Africa, with offices both in New York state and Kenya, is to "promote the development of African nations" through a multi- pronged plan targeting education, water stabilization, healthcare and cultural exchange. Depending on the size of the donation, money will be channeled toward different facets of the project. For example, the one thousand dollars raised by Hamilton's One Heart group at the Mr. Hamilton pageant enabled three students to attend a boarding school for the year, granting them a far higher level of education than they could have had otherwise.

The group is planning a fashion-show type fund-raiser at some point in April. Although it is not yet finalized, if it is anything like the Mr. Hamilton pageant, it is sure to be a good time and for an even better cause.

Want to write for Arts & Entertainment?

Contact jvano or rpohl for info.

Men's Baseball Team Shoots for Winning Season in 2009

by Jeff Rudberg '10
Sports Writer

While most students are enjoying their spring break, the baseball team will be hard at work in Florida in pursuit of its first winning season since 1990. Leading the Continentals this season is third-year head coach Tim Byrnes. Joining him is first-year pitching coach Matt Leahy. Leahy played AAA baseball for both the Minnesota Twins and Toronto Blue Jays. According to Byrnes, "He knows the game quite well, and we are already a better team for it." Hamilton extended this year's spring break trip from 10 games over six days to 14 games over 11 days. Hamilton will benefit from the longer trip as it will play fewer double headers, have more opportunities to put its top starting pitchers on the mound and have more time to evaluate new players fighting for key positions.

The Continentals need to be ready to play their best baseball right from the beginning, as they face Trinity College on March 17th, the second day of the season. Trinity returns 24 players from last season's team, which posted a 45-1 record in 2008 on its way to a Division 3 National Championship. This game is even more challenging because it is the day after a double header. Jake Saidman '09, who faced the Bantams as a sophomore, will be the starting pitcher for the game. Coach Byrnes is hopeful that a strong performance from Saidman will put the team in a position to win the game late.

Offensively, Hamilton will look to second baseman Gideon Clark '09 to continue his success from last season. In 2008 he lead the team in batting average, on-base percentage, runs and hits, and finished second in slugging percentage, total bases and stolen bases. Coach Byrnes described Gideon as "an extremely gifted athlete," and has challenged him to be an All-NESCAC player, an honor no Continental has received in over eight seasons. "I called him in for a meeting and said five words to him," Byrnes recalls. "I said hit .400, don't make errors." Clark is one of only four seniors on this year's roster, and will play a critical part offensively as the team's leadoff hitter.

Another player to watch for is third baseman Alex Augustyn '10. As a first year, Augustyn hit .308, good for third on the 2007 team, and drove in 15 runs. His sophomore year started off even better with a .366 batting average, three home runs, 13 RBI and a .756 slugging percentage in just 41 at-bats. Unfortunately for both Augustyn and the Continentals, his hot start at the plate was cut short by a shoulder injury. When asked about Augustyn's health, Coach Byrnes said, "Alex is healthy and stronger now than he was before and has worked hard on injury prevention." He continued, "we are only as good as Alex is healthy." With Gideon Clark '09 and Ryan Calabrese '10 hitting in front of him and Justin Atwood '11 in the clean-up spot, a healthy Augustyn should put up big numbers batting third in the order.

On the mound, Hamilton will depend on starting pitcher Max Foster '10. As a sophomore, Foster was the best Continental in terms of earned run average, opponent's batting average, wins and innings pitched, and his 59 strikeouts was the fourth highest among all NESCAC pitchers. In addition to playing first base and designated hitter, sophomore Justin Atwood '11 will continue to close games on the mound this season. Last year, Atwood's four saves in Hamilton's 10 wins was enough to earn him a share of the NESCAC lead in this category. Coach Byrnes is considering expanding Atwood's closer role by using him in more two-inning save situations.

The graduation of 2008 captains Dan Hood and Tom Monfiletto leaves a big hole at catcher this season. Last year, Hood or Monfiletto started at catcher for every game but one. Early games will be important as they provide a good opportunity for the new catchers to build chemistry with the pitching staff, and they allow coach Byrnes to determine who will ultimately fill this critical position on the field. Todd Haylon '12, Pat Gennaco '11, Max Currier '10 and Kyle Mason '11 are the four catchers currently on the roster, and each player is expected to see some playing time in Florida.

Coach Byrnes has set a goal of returning to Clinton with a record of .500 or better. To be over .500, the Continentals will have to win eight of 14 games, which would be impressive considering they only won ten games last season. Byrnes said, "It would be a tremendous achievement for this team, but we are capable of more."

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Stay tuned for the next issue of *Spectator Sports*, featuring:
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Distance Medley Relay Dominates at State Finals

by James Russell '09 and Scott Bickard '11
Sports Writers

Keith Gross '09 called it the most anticipated race of his career. Cuffie Winkler '10 wondered whether it could be done. JP "PJ" Trayler '10 was sick and alternate Cam Gaylord '09 said, "I'll be ready." Of course, Peter Kosgei '10 was prepared to make up as much ground as possible. These four men formed a Distance Medley Relay (DMR) group at the indoor track New York state championships that would break the school record. But they came for more than the record. They wanted Nationals.

10:10.00 was the time they needed. It would take near personal best performances from all four runners. 3:10, 53.0, 1:59, 4:07 (in the 1200m, 400m, 800m, and mile, respectively) were the numbers Coach Brett Hull whispered in his sleep. Coach Hull understood the importance of this event.

As you all know, the DMR hype began last indoor season when Kosgei ran a magical 4:03 mile split to give Hamilton a near come-from-behind state championship. The goal for this season was to put stronger legs around Peter and take better advantage of his near 4-minute speed.

Gross led off with the 1200-meters. After 1000 meters (and a new 1000 meter personal best), he was exactly where he wanted and needed to kick in the last 200 in 35 seconds. It took Gross a fraction over 37 seconds and 3:12.9 overall, which meant Kosgei would now have to run a 4:05 mile. Still, very manageable.

Trayler, the team's 400-meter specialist, had been feeling sick all morning. Mr. Coach and Distance Coordinator Coach Bellona weren't willing to take any chances. Gaylord got the call he'd been waiting for all week.

"Things happen. PJ was sick, so I knew it was time for me to throw down," Gaylord said after the race. Gaylord's 52.8 second 400-meters surpassed projections, easing the burden on the remaining splits.

It was Winkler's turn now. He hadn't broken the 2:00 minute mark since last season, and that was done in "The Year of the 800" (2008). Winkler handed off the baton in 2:01.14. Kosgei would have to run a 4:03.54 in order for the team to qualify for nationals.

At this point in the race, Hamilton was in third place, with RIT a little over 100 meters ahead and St. Lawrence ahead by approximately 75 meters. Even with those leads, it was a near certainty that Hamilton would be taking home the state championship. After all, Kosgei could run a mile faster than both runners could run their 1500 meters. However, was Hamilton in too good of a position?

When Peter is in chase mode, like he was last year, it forces him to explore levels of his talent he otherwise does not need to unleash.

"It's all in his eyes," William Reid '10 said. "When he gets in that warrior mode, with that slight head tilt, I know he's locked in." The time the 1st and 2nd place runners clocked, which forced Kosgei to remain in the zone, may have been a big factor in this race.

Peter crossed the 800-meter mark in just under 1:58. A charged anticipation sat in the air, from the throwers area to the jumpers pit to the adjacent swimming pool. St. Lawrence and their bizarro viking runners forgot about their trademark "S-L-U!" chant. RIT, in first place, forgot they were still in first place. The same question was on everybody's mind: Would Kosgei break 4 minutes?

With 400 meters to go, Kosgei clocked in at just over three minutes. He'd just passed the second place St. Lawrence runner at around 600m. With the four-minute mile probably out of the question, it was all about getting under 10:10. Kosgei finally passed the RIT runner with 150 meters to go, and from there, he used everything he had left to complete his split in 4:04.4. The final time: 10:10.85.

Although they failed in their pursuit for national glory, the DMR team put on one of the most memorable performances in recent Hamilton track history while winning a state championship. The drama before, after, and during the race was some of the best entertainment we've had all week, sans Monday's Heroes episode.

So, good work fellas. Keep putting on The Show. (If you'd like to see for yourself, just search "Hamilton College NYSCTC DMR" on YouTube.)

ECAC Note: While Kosgei and Ductan rest themselves for nationals, Akilah Bond '09 (Triple Jump), James Russell '09 (Pole Vault), and Rebecca Yaguda '09 (Pole Vault) look to make some big jumps in hopes that they too can punch their ticket to the ECAC meet this weekend.

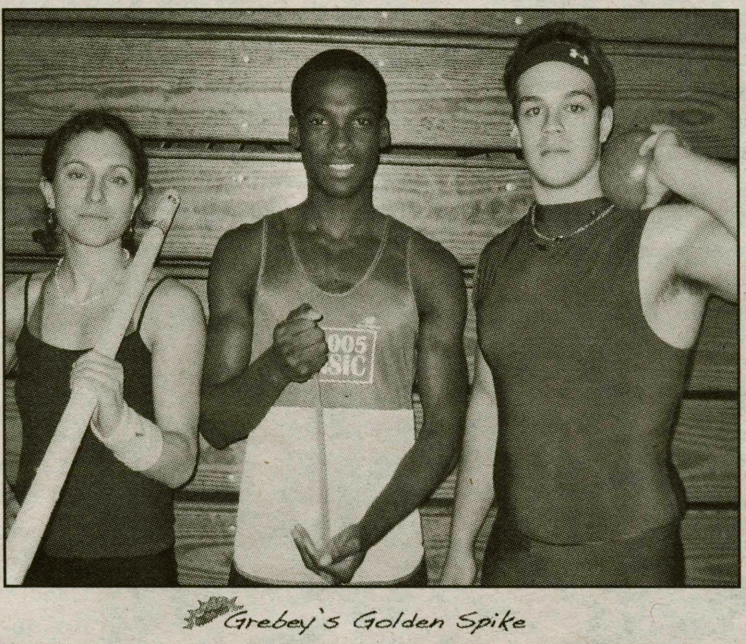


PHOTO COURTESY OF JAMES RUSSELL '09

The Golden Spike Winners (Rebecca Yaguda '09, Tidelco Ductan '09 and Josh Orndorff '11) have mastered the elements: the stick, the sand, and the shot.

Golden Spike Award Winners

Men's Golden Spike Winner: Tidelco Ductan '09 - Distance running coach Steve Bellona told Ductan two weeks before the meet that he would shave his head if Tigar could clear 14.45 meters in the triple jump. After Ductan's school record jump of 14.6 meters, Bellona showed up to Monday's practice with a fine new 'do.

Men's Golden Spike Winner: Josh Orndorff '10 - "JO" finally put it together in a big meet. After giant tosses in practice, Josh decided to keep it "schoolyard," throwing the shot 13.9 meters and taking home 3rd place at the State Championships.

Women's Golden Spike Winner: Rebecca Yaguda '09 - "Beck's" personal best and ECAC qualifying jump of 10' 8" (almost a foot higher than her previous best) was even more special given her 400-meter relay team was in the second leg of their run. She returned to the ground to anchor a 7th place finish.

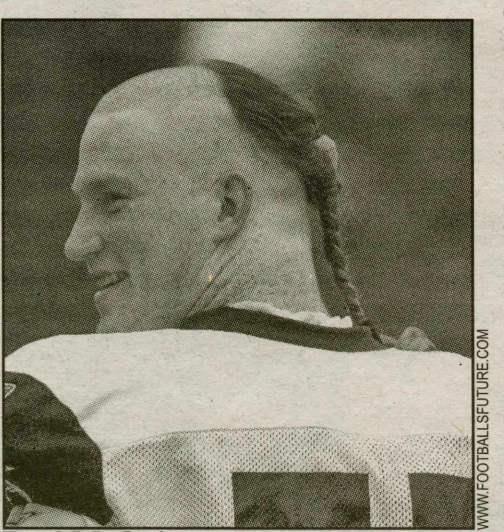
The Ugliest Current Professional Athletes

by Daniel Greenberg '12
Sports Columnist

Unnoticed amongst all the wealthy, attractive superstar athletes are the unsung heroes; the athletes that ironically go unnoticed because of their innate physical attributes. These athletes are those who are physically talented but attractively untalented. They are the silent heroes, showing idolizing, ugly teenagers in a star-run American culture that there is still hope. With all the Tom Bradys, Tiger Woodses, Andy Roddicks, and Lebron Jameses, it is time we recognize and rank those who focus solely on the game without getting distracted by "the game."

It is unrealistic for younglings to expect to attain the supermodel-getting, supermodel-being, party animal lifestyle of these genetically superior human beings. There are athletes, though, who represent the laymen in society, those who do all the dirty work without being in Nike commercials. So, after assessing the ugliness of all of contemporary society's athletes, three outstanding candidates stand out above them all: Andy Murray, Joe Flacco, and Paul McQuistan.

Andy Murray, ranked fourth best tennis player in the world by the ATP, is infamous for taking part in the Juan Martin Del Potro vs. Andy Murray match, which stands to date as the ugliest match-up in tennis history. As Donald Jay Moore '10 put it best when inquired on Murray's ugliness: "Yes! Thank you... Those aren't even the ugliest pictures, you should get the one of him at Wimbledon, where he's like [monster noises]." The pride of English tennis, Andy Murray vies for position amongst the best of the worst with his dazzling muttonchops, woodchucker-esque teeth, and flowing 70s hair. "I don't know why everyone thinks British guys have such ugly teeth," an undisclosed sophomore girl replied while voicing her contrasting opinion. "Andy Murray is attractive, dude, no homo," tennis-enthusiast and player Mike Moreno '11 states. Still there is great backing in the tennis community that Andy Murray is the Uranus amid a galaxy of stars.



Paul McQuistan

Joe Flacco represents the average Joe Unibrow in his campaign for greatest ugly sportsman. "Oh, he's so ugly, it looks like he got hit by a truck in his face!" an anonymous freshman guy voiced upon the arising of Joe Flacco's name. Despite his unibrow, Joe Flacco has arisen as a promising young quarterback, leading his Ravens to the AFC championship game in his rookie year before losing to the eventual Superbowl champions. Die-hard Raven's fan Ryan Karerat '12 voiced his support for Joe Flacco's magic unibrow–"You just wish your unibrow was half the man Joe Flacco is." There is no doubt that Joe Flacco is the ugliest quarterback in the NFL, but it is questionable if he is amongst the highest echelons of unattractiveness in the broader spectrum of sports. There are many who believe that the Flac is not even the ugliest in the NFL because of the strength of one candidate: Paul McQuistan.

Paul McQuistan, a very "offensive" lineman for the Oakland Raiders, has set the bar very high for this new breed of ugly professional sportsman. Once again, Donald Jay Moore '10 puts it best: "Who? ... OH JESUS! ... If people didn't love the sport so much it'd be unbearable to watch." His flaming red mullet and triple chin are no doubt incredible qualifications, but there is some debate on the legitimacy of his ugliness. Many professional pundits (basically just me) are convinced that such a freakish athlete could not have achieved such heights through normal means. Numerous sports analysts believe that he must be on some sort of ugly steroid or Human Ugly Hormone - those looks just can't be natural. Despite accusations, there is still strong support for McQuistan's place as top rung on the ugly ladder - "Thank God they wear helmets in the NFL," Ryan Karerat '12 says.

The truth of who is ugliest can only be found amongst the fans. Thus, upon the realization that everyone who saw the pictures of McQuistan jerked back in disgust while shielding their eyes, the answer seems clear. So if you happen to be a GM in the ugly league, the athlete you should pick first in the ugly draft is obvious: Paul McQuistan.

Still, the ugliness of this new wave of athletes should be lauded, not rejected. The reason for this is explained simply by Makenna Perry '12, "I don't know, I don't know. I think everyone's beautiful in their own way."

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SPECTATOR SPORTS

March 5, 2009

Women's Lax Prepares for Next National Title Run

by Erin Hoener '10
Editor-in-Chief

Although the weather on the Hill has yet to show any indication that spring is upon us, the women's lacrosse team has hit the turf, ready to defend their title as National Champions. Last spring, the woman's lacrosse team brought home Hamilton's first team NCAA National Championship trophy after defeating Franklin and Marshall College 13-6 in the final game. The second time Liberty League Champion Continentals successfully avenged their only loss of the season, which came against F&M in early March. On their run to title, Hamilton also defeated Middlebury, preventing them from appearing in the Final Four for the first time in the 14 years since the NESCAC lifted its ban on NCAA play in 1994.

Coming off of such a successful season, expectations are certainly high for the Continentals. As is common for reigning national champions, Hamilton currently tops the *Inside Lacrosse* Weekly Coach's poll. However, the coaches and the team alike do not seem to be phased by these expectations.

Coach Patty Kloidt explained, "It doesn't mean anything to be ranked No. 1 in February. We didn't do anything to deserve it yet. Being ranked No. 1 in May, now that means something because you did something to deserve it."

Co-Captain Kaillie Briscoe '09 agreed, "It's nice to know that other people respect us, but any team can beat any other team on any given day, so I don't give it too much thought. Being ranked No. 1 in the preseason is great, but being number one at the end of the season is where our focus is now."

"We are staying away from putting pressure on ourselves," explained Co-Captain Catie Gibbons '09, "in order to play our best, we are working to enjoy playing the sport we all love."

Although it is only natural to make comparisons, it is a new year and a different team. The team welcomed a new assistant coach and eight strong first-years. "Our freshmen have brought a lot of athleticism and tenacity to our program and are constantly pushing the older kids to work for every single play. Already we are more poised under pressure and are relentless in pursuit of the ball."

This athleticism and tenacity was on display at Union College this past weekend as the Continentals took on a slew of top 20 teams. Always up for a challenge, Hamilton took on No. 16 William Smith, No. 10 Amherst, No. 8 Union and No. 5 Middlebury in the pre-season scrimmage tournament. Although exact scores were not recorded, Hamilton gained a lot of experi-

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ence that is sure to prove valuable as the team heads into regular season play next week. Briscoe was very optimistic about the team's showing, commenting, "with so many new people in the mix, we weren't sure what to expect going into our first scrimmage. We really started to come together as a team by the end of the day. It wasn't perfect and there's lots of room for improvement, but we're at a great starting point and I'm very excited about the 2009 season."

Briscoe has a lot to be excited for, as she was named to the 2009 preseason Tewaaraton Watch List. For those outside of the lacrosse world, the Tewaaraton trophy can be thought of as equivalent to the Heisman trophy, as it is awarded to the top collegiate lacrosse players in the country. Briscoe has Coach Kloidt to thank for the nomination, "I nominated her, but didn't know how far it would go from there. KB works so hard and is very passionate about her team. It is nice to see someone be recognized for hard work." Through this hard work, Briscoe has topped the program's career charts with 262 points and 97 assists.

Although flattered by the mention, Briscoe is focused on just one thing, "Sure winning the Tewaaraton would be cool, but the only award I'm focused on is the National Championship. Nothing is more important to me than defending our title and I plan to do anything and everything I can to ensure our team is able to do that."

While it is easy to get caught up in the offensive side of the game, it is important to remember that "While the offense wins games, defense wins championships." Briscoe credits Hamilton's strong defense as "the main reason we have been so successful in the past few years," Goalie Kate Fowler '10 was a pillar of the Continental defense with a record of 20-1 and 135 recorded saves.

"I know that every day in practice I am facing the best defense in the country," explained Briscoe, "No opponent can work our offense to the same degree and I think it is about time they got some credit for their dominance."

The Continentals are not content to live off of last season's success and are ready to get back on the turf and show what they are made of. As Coach Kloidt explained this fall, "They love to play, and they love to play good competition."

Hamilton starts the season strong, hitting the Campus Road Turf on March 10 against Nazareth College and heading to Utica College to take on the Pioneers on March 13.

Over Spring Break, the Continentals will travel to Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas to take on 2007 National Champions and No. 2 ranked, Salisbury College on March 18 and No. 20 ranked Rowan College on March 19.

With the campus community behind them, Hamilton Women's Lacrosse looks forward to defending their national title this season.

Melissa Nezamzadeh '12 contributed reporting to this article.

Men's Lacrosse Team Gears up for 2009 NCAA Campaign

by Marc Pitarressi '10
Sports Writer

The snow is gradually melting on the Hill, and that means that the Hamilton College men's lacrosse team is ready for another season. With head coach Scott Barnard beginning his third season at Hamilton and strong underclass talent, the Continentals are ready to make an impact in the Liberty League in 2009.

This year's squad is short on experience, but boasts a talented freshman class that is expected to both contribute and push the rest of the team. While at perennial NJCAA powerhouse Herkimer County Community College, Barnard's teams were known for their run and gun style of offense. This year's team does not need to be quite so aggressive, however, and Coach Barnard hopes that his team can find balance and consistency.

"We want to play team offense. Possess the ball, take good shots, and capitalize. We don't want one side of the ball to have to prop up the other," Barnard said.

In order to find this balance, the Continentals will look to returning players like co-captain Franke Holliber '10, Max Akuamoah-Boateng '09, and Peter Gerrity '09. Hamilton will also look for leadership from its experienced defensive unit; featuring co-captain Blake Hollinger '09, Rob Dickson '10, and Andy Sigler '10 on defense and Christian Kunhardt '10 in goal. These players will be relied upon heavily to make up for the departure of Frasher Kempe '08, Marc Albu '08, and Ned Gillis '08. While these losses may seem formidable, Coach Barnard is confident in this year's team.

"We did lose a few guys, but our team is not built around one person, we try to instill the team concept, and these guys are taking to that," Barnard explained.

In order to be successful, the Continentals will have to pick up its efforts in Liberty League play, where they managed just one victory last season. Gerrity knows that Hamilton needs to improve against league opponents to gain much sought-after respect.

"We're out to prove that we're a contender. 1-7 in the Liberty League doesn't cut it, so we have a lot to prove," Gerrity said.

Coach Barnard once again preaches consistency when it comes to the team's Liberty League performance: "We beat SUNY Geneseo in non-conference play last year (then ranked #10, whose only other loss was to eventual national runner-up Cortland State), I would like to see that same fire in Liberty League play."

Hamilton has looked impressive in pre-season scrimmages against Onondaga Community College, Williams and Amherst, and Coach Barnard is pleased with his team's performance against comparable opponents. But the time has come for the Continentals to show their worth as they host SUNY Morrisville in their season opener at 1 p.m. on Saturday, March 7 on the turf at Campus Road Athletic Field.

Athlete of the Week:
Whitney Rosenbaum '10

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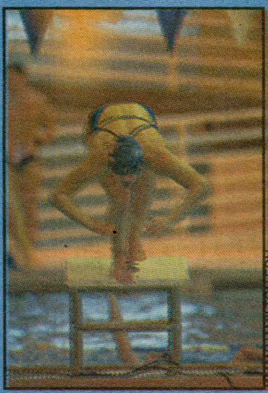
by Abby Perer '09
Sports Writer

- **Age:** 21
- **Hometown:** Alford, MA
- **Sport:** Swimming
- **Event:** Butterfly
- **Years Swimming:** 9
- **Claim to Fame:** Last weekend at a Swarthmore Invitational "last-chance" meet, Rosenbaum broke her own school record in the 100-yard butterfly by .02 seconds. She also clocked a time of 2:05.87 in the 200-yard buttefly, which was the 12th fastest NCAA Division III time in that event this season. Her performance at Swarthmore nearly guarantees Rosenbaum a trip to nationals in Minnesota. Stay tuned.

Proudest Athletic Moment: Being captain of her high school swim team.

- **Most Embarrassing Athletic Moment:** At the age of 12, Rosenbaum lost focus during a meet and swam in a boys' heat instead of her own.

- **Favorite Pro Athlete:** Misty Hyman
- **Favorite Sports Movie:** *Miracle*
- **-Hobby:** Hanging out at Commons
- **Next Meet:** NCAA Division III Championship trials begin March 18 in Minnesota



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